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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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'New junior, senior HS needed'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The CNMI State Board of Education has repeated its call on the need for opening new junior and senior high schools to accommodate the increasing student population, most especially in the southern area of Saipan.

BOE chair MaryLou S. Ada said that they are looking for local funding sources since the federal grants that the Public School System receives can't be used for construction purposes like building additional classrooms.

"We have emphasized that to [PSS interim commissioner] Glenn [Muna] that we should prioritize [Marianas High School] because they have 1,500 students," Ada said during a short recess in yesterday's meeting at the BOE conference room in Capital Hill

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JON PEREZ

CNMI State Board of Education chair MaryLou S. Ada, right, talks to former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente during a brief recess in yesterday's board meeting at the BOE conference room on Capital Hill.

Tinian slaughterhouse in the works

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A Tinian senator along with a local agricultural organization is looking forward to setting up its own slaughterhouse suitable to the island as it receives the pledge of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Hofschneider

Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), in an interview yesterday, said that the Tinian slaughterhouse, a project backed by the Tinian Cattlemen's Association and the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, has received the pledge of the governor for its $250,000 for a modular processing unit slaughterhouse.

The Tinian Cattlemen's Association is an organization that focuses on the "wise stewardship of livestock and natural resources with sustainability in mind," according to their social media page. The organization is led by president and former senator Jose Dela Cruz.

The $250,000 would be derived from the annual community benefit fund Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC

See TINIAN on Page 4

NIMO: Goal is to bring back thriving islands

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Northern Islands Mayor's Office has been working on improvements to the Northern Islands to incorporate civilization while also maintaining the islands' purity.

During the Rotary Club of Saipan weekly meeting last Tuesday Kelly Tenorio, Northern Islands Mayor's Office project coordinator and Northern Island resident, informed the Rotarians of what the Northern Islands Mayor's Office has been doing over the past year and what they hope to accomplish.

"The mayor's office mission, now, is to bring back our islands that were thriving many years ago," she said.

Tenorio said that part of her office's mission is to reach out to the community and to CNMI schools in order to inform other people that there are islands beyond Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that serve as natural resources and that the entire Marianas are the stewards and the guardians of these gems.

"We have to keep this rolling in

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INSIDE

LOCAL

The Marianas Visitors Authority has partnered with Samsonite Korea on a consumer promotion targeting summer vacation season.

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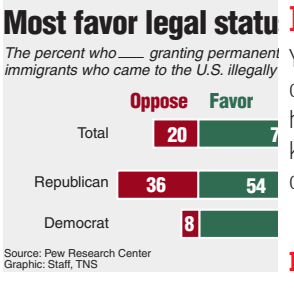

NATION

Youngsters placed in chain-link cages in an old Texas warehouse. Parents begging to know what will happen to their children.

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ENVIRONMENT

It took years of activist campaigns to turn the plastic bag into a villain, and hard-fought legislation to reduce its presence in oceans and waterways.

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Local

Palacios to review $300K appropriation

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A spending measure amounting to over $300,000 is up to acting governor Arnold I. Palacios' review after the delegation passed it in a session yesterday.

The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, led by Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), in a session yesterday at the Senate Chamber on Capitol Hill, passed delegation member Rep. Edwin Aldan's (R-Tinian) House Local Bill 20-70 unanimously after amendments.

The bill appropriates $368,555 of the reimbursed $1.7 million to the Tinian delegation for the payment of obligations owed by the central government under Public Law 7-31, the law that previously increased government employee salaries. The Legislature then failed to identify the proper resources to fund the new law, pushing both Saipan and Tinian through their respective legislative delegations to appropriate local funding for the deficit.

Of the $1.7 million, $368,555 is appropriated to the Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor's Office personnel and operation expenses.

Aldan's bill was further amended on the delegation floor to reflect that the Secretary of Finance has 15 days after the enactment of H.L.B. 20-70 to transfer the amount to an account set up by the Tinian Municipal Treasurer, which shall regulate and control funds appropriated in the bill so that "no activity may spend contrary to this act or fiscal management policies" of both Tinian or the CNMI as a whole.

Aldan further amended the bill to allow unexpended funds under Tinian Local Law 20-12 to be available for expenditure for the operations of the Tinian Mayor's Office.

T.L.L. 20-12 was enacted by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in early June 2018. It appropriated $100,000 from the local license fees collected from pachinko and poker machines on Tinian. It funded the Tinian Little League as well as the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission.

The bill passed the delegation with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ex-convict placed on supervised release for 32 months for 'ice' use

The federal court has placed on supervised release for 32 months an ex-convict who used methamphetamine or "ice" while on supervised release.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Tuesday afternoon granted the U.S. government's request to revoke the supervised release of Hermanny Palacios Santos Jr. after the defendant entered a "no contest" to the allegation.

With the new supervised release, Manglona imposed several special conditions, including subjecting Santos to a location monitoring technology for four months and restricted him to his residence at all times except for employment, education, religious activities, medical, treatment, and court appearances.

Santos must submit to substance abuse testing (no more than eight tests per month) and must not use or possess alcohol and submit to breathalyzer testing.

Robert T. Torres, court-appointed counsel for Santos, argued that the defendant does not contest the laboratory results and they do not challenge those results.

Torres recommended that Santos be ordered to serve community service hours, placed on location monitoring with home detention, more counseling, and drug testing.

Assistant U.S, attorney James Benedetto appeared for the U.S. government.

According to U.S. probation officer Gregory F. Arriola, Santos tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine at the drug-testing vendor last May 14.

Arriola said because Santos denied use of illicit drugs, the urine specimen was sent to the national laboratory confirmatory testing.

Arriola said that, the following day, May 15, Santos was subjected to a drug test at the U.S. Probation Office and was found presumptive positive for methamphetamine and amphetamines.

When questioned about the test results, the defendant denied using any drugs. The urine specimen was sent to the national laboratory for confirmatory testing.

Arriola said that last May 21, the laboratory reports for both testing dates were received, which revealed positive results for methamphetamine.

Arriola said that the following day, May 22, they confronted Santos with the results, but the defendant continued to deny that he used any illicit substances.

The probation officer said Santos inquired if he could have tested positive by "someone putting the drug in his drink or food."

Santos was informed that it was very unlikely.

In December 2016, the District Court slapped Santos with a 21-month prison term after he entered a guilty plea to an indictment that charged him with two counts of felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Upon release from imprisonment, Santos was placed on supervised release for three years with some conditions, including not using controlled substance and submit to substance abuse treatment program. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CHCC warns public against heat stress

As the islands move into the summer months and community members start to enjoy some of their favorite outdoor activities, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. said it is very important to protect yourself from heat stress, or heat-related illnesses.

Heat stress occurs when the body is unable to cool down properly. A too high body temperature may cause damage to the brain or other vital organs.

It is most important, especially in the islands' hot tropical climate, to stay hydrated by drinking water, stay cool, and stay informed.

Below are the different types of heat-related illnesses (from most to least serve), how to recognize them, and what to do when presented with signs of them.

See CHCC on Page 4

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EXPLORE YOUR WORLD IT&E

1st phase of Saipan Garden Resort breaks ground

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

American Sinopan LLC hosted a small groundbreaking ceremony for CNMI officials to thank the government for their acceptance of their resort project.

The company's construction broke ground Tuesday to begin the earth moving and erosion control part of constructing the Saipan Garden Resort. This part of construction is basically the clearing out of all the debris, plantation, and soil surrounding the area in which the resort will be built on.

According to American Sinopan chief engineer James Bi, there are about 100,000 square meters of land that has to be cleared up. On this 100,000 square meters, American Sinopan will construct 1,184 guestrooms, 170 apartments, and 108 staff apartments. The structure will be compound-like with 14 six-story buildings, three swimming pools, and six restaurants.

"This is actually the second project and we have another project, Heavenly II, on Capitol Hill for renovation," he said.

Bi said that Sinopan has been preparing for the groundbreaking ceremony of Saipan Garden Resort project for almost a year and they have been waiting anxiously for this moment.

The contractor that Sinopan chose to go with is the Jeung Su Construction Group based off of Saipan. "They have been coming here since last year to prepare for the building of the super structure," he said.

Although Sinopan went for an off-island contracting company to construct the super structure, Sinopan chose to go with a local contractor for the earth moving and erosion control portion of construction. The contractor group is called Success Construction Group.

"For the earth moving and the erosion control, we choose the local contractor…all together we need 800 workers up to 1,000. Right now because of the policy change, we have around 100 for the foundation and that is OK," he said.

The American Sinopan Construction Group expects to complete phase 1 of three phases by October 2019.

The completion date for phase 1 is set for October 2019. Phase 1 starts with 500 guestrooms plus 10 apartments. All of them will be six stories high.

Phase 2 will begin in mid-2019 and will be completed by 2020. Phase 2 consists of 700 plus rooms (both apartments and guest rooms).

Phase 3 will be the completion of the administrative office but there is no timeline yet.

American Sinopan Construction Group is also currently looking for local workers to be part of their team. "We are ready to hire workers from Chuuk, Pohnpei, Palau," said Bi.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI dignitaries prepare to break ground during the Saipan Garden Resort groundbreaking ceremony last Monday.

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Registration drive at 14 places nets 427 voters

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» CNMI registered voters now 17,657

» CEC to open every Saturdays starting July 7

The Commonwealth Election Commission's voter registration drive at 14 different locations on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota has resulted in the registration of 427 individuals.

CEC acting executive director Kayla Igitol in an interview disclosed that with the new registrants, as of Tuesday there are now a total of 17,657 registered voters in the CNMI.

In the 2016 general election, there were a total of 17,928 registered voters in the CNMI.

Igitol also announced that starting July 7, CEC's office in Susupe will open every Saturdays from 9am to 3pm to accommodate more persons who want to register.

Igitol said most people work from Monday to Friday and they want to give them opportunity to register before the Sept. 7 deadline.

The voter registration drive started last April 12 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa and at Kagman High School. The last drive was at the Northern Marianas College's Cash for College program last Saturday.

The registration drive at Mount Carmel School set for last May 17 was canceled due to a power outage.

The general election will be on Nov. 6.

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NIMO

From Page 1

[an ecological] way…we have eight types of coconut trees out there and the islands are full of them…we have also transferred birds up to an island called Guguan so we have resources there…in case we need to go back and get some of these birds in the future," she said.

As of last year, the Northern Islands Mayor's Office has done a lot such as establishing a village and an electricity source in Pagan, Agrihan, and now Alamagan.

One of the most recent completed projects was bringing back clean water to the people living on the Northern Islands.

"I think that is the most important. There are a lot of water catchments out there but they were all dirty and no one has been taking care of them so it took us quite a while to clean them up, fix them up, and to get a good clean water supply going… Now I am proud to say that each of those islands have those today," she said.

The mayor's office has also cleaned up all the garbage that accumulated on the islands, sent them back to Saipan, and recycled them. "…Each of the islands are now healthy and clean," she said.

The goal is to get the residents who use to inhabit the island and had to leave, to want to return home. Now, the Northern Islands Mayor's Office is working on a way to ensure a more efficient way of traveling to the Northern Islands

"We are also working on getting the Pagan airstrip landing cleaned up… we are not only wanting to bring them back but we are also wanting to teach them how to live off of the island," she said.

Tenorio said that the only form of transportation that would be allowed in the Northern Islands would be an aircraft or boat.

According to Adriana Cotero, KSPN News 2 anchor and visitor to the Northern Islands, it was refreshing to be one with nature like the residents of the Northern Islands do.

"When I was up there, it was really life changing, it's just one of those moments you can really pinpoint in your life. Not only did I experience something new but I realized a lot about myself as well…you really get to know yourself out there," she said.

Currently, there are two people living on Agrihan, two people living on Pagan, and there are eight individuals living on Alamagan.

TINIAN

From Page 1

pays annually for community projects.

"We are looking at [the slaughterhouse] plus [including] some of the equipment associated with [the slaughterhouse]," Hofschneider said, adding that freezer trucks, chillers, and more are also being looked into.

According to Hofschneider, Tinian's production of meat is primarily for subsistence on the island. He believes that with the new slaughterhouse, it opens up the window for a possible meat industry based on Tinian as well as a new means of financial support for the cattlemen on Tinian.

Hofschneider noted that Tinian beef is grass-fed and well known throughout the Marianas.

According to a June 6, 2018 letter from the Tinian delegation, which Hofschneider chairs, the slaughterhouse would cost exactly $249,550 plus an additional $77,000 for shipping and handling.

"As a result of this commitment from the governor, we could hopefully…be able to sell our beef…in the shelves here in the CNMI," he said.

In order to meet this goal, Hofschneider said the Tinian leadership is now working towards making sure the slaughterhouse is adequately staffed with Department of Lands and Natural Resources personnel that are U.S. Department of Agriculture-certified inspectors.

"We are working with the agency and the [Tinian] mayor to try and identify at least two to three personnel currently on Tinian to get them certified by the USDA as…inspectors," he said, adding that the delegation would be providing the funding for the training of the personnel.

According to Hofschneider, the closest USDA training facility is in Hawaii. When asked, Hofschneider said the exact amount the delegation would allot is dependent on their findings.

"[The cost] is still something to be sourced up and then we will identify and commit the funds for that particular training," he said.

NEW

From Page 1

"I've been to classrooms where there's a 1:35 student-teacher [ratio]. That is not a conducive place to study. It is too crowded and hard to move around. That's our priority, to build more classrooms and ease the stress of crowding in classrooms."

She added that building a new school also needs a sizable land area since a road that's coming in and out of the campus, cafeteria, and a playground or gym are among the things that they need to be considered aside from the classrooms.

"It includes a lot of big land, so we can't have that if the land space is not adequately provided for. We're losing a lot of public land. They are slowly diminishing. So we need a large property and it is hard to find nowadays," said Ada.

She cited Hopwood Middle School as an example since it was built after World War II. "And it is close to the ocean. What if there's a tsunami? It is about time that we must build. Hopwood is too old. We've been doing too many repairs and maintenance. It is better to build a new one, so it won't be like Band-Aid solutions."

Ada added that they are also looking to relocate the school but "Every time we pick [a land], it's already been taken. So the governor must understand we need a need junior high school and we need to alleviate MHS."

She said one junior and one senior high school would be enough. "We're doing a seven-year plan so this may come up soon. It will give us a direction where the population is shifting right now."

"Right now, it's in the south. Classrooms in [Garapan Elementary School] are way empty. Everybody is looking at Koblerville. Hopwood's population is increasing. [Saipan Southern HS] also seen an increase in population. It is really shifting toward the south."

Address the issue

BOE member Herman T. Guerrero, a former board chair, said the issue must be solved immediately. "Either we build another high school somewhere. One of the biggest problems over the years is there's no public land that is close to those areas."

"The other public land that the government still have is past the [CNMI Division of] Agriculture office. That is something to look into," Guerrero added.

He, however, said that their pleas have fallen on deaf ears of past and present administrations. "Sometimes the governor and [Department of Public Lands] seem not too serious when it comes to looking in terms of providing the future needs of the CNMI for education. We've been asking for those things, even in the past, it keeps falling on deaf ears."

Guerrero said that the former San Antonio Middle School must also be moved. "Because it is too crowded and we are also encroaching on private land. Something has to move. The late Gov. [Eloy] Inos was recommending the one at the Agriculture office. That's a big chunk of land. Other than that, it is going to be difficult to find public land. Even in Garapan, it is going to be difficult."

He recalled that they asked for the public land just north of the hospital during the administration of then governor Juan N. Babauta but it was leased to another party. "By the time they cancelled the lease, [the land] was given to the hospital. Our requests kept falling on deaf ears."

"[DPL] is also doing a master plan and we have echoed our concerns. The government needs to plan, to set aside for the future needs of the CNMI educational system. We voiced that to [interim commissioner Muna] several times before that we should ask DPL or Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres to set aside [land past Agriculture office] before the government gives it off."

He said they had also asked Torres for a piece of land near Saipan Southern High School where some of the students park their cars. "But he refuses. I don't know where he is in considering the needs for our education. We asked that [land]. I asked [Rep.] Angel Demapan to introduce a legislation to give [BOE] the property."

"We're not asking too much. We just want a piece that we can pave and turn it into a parking lot. [It's] not a large portion of land. When Pete A. Tenorio was executive director of Public Lands, he mentioned that it could be done. But subsequent governors where just playing politics."

He said it is up to the other BOE members to push for the plan since his term would end this year.

Relocating GES

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) said the plan of relocating GES has also been discussed for over a decade now since the school is near the island's tourist district that includes restaurants, hotels, and bars.

"It has been on and off. But, you know, PSS has to be at the front and center of that conversation. And also, the surrounding communities that serve the children of those areas have to be involved in that decision making."

"You know, GES is right in the middle of the tourist district. But it still serves a substantial number of students. Is that something that we want to do if and if we do that then how are we going to be able to do it?"

Plans of demolishing and developing the abandoned housing units near the GES gate entrance have floated around, but there's still no concrete proposal on how the area could be used.

Palacios has introduced the legislation that established the Office of Planning and Development to help manage the rapid pace of development projects in the Commonwealth.

CHCC

From Page 2

Heat Stroke:

WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
High body temperature (103°F or higher) Hot, red, dry, or damp skin Fast, strong pulse Headache Dizziness Confusion Nausea Passing Out	**Call 911 right away-heat stroke is a medical emergency** Move the person to a cooler place Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath Do NOT give the person anything to drink

Heat Exhaustion

WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
Heavy sweating Fast, weak pulse Cold, pale, and clammy skin Nausea or vomiting Muscle cramps Tiredness or weakness Dizziness Headache Fainting (passing out)	Move to a cool place Loosen your clothes Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath Sip water **Get medical help right away if:** You are throwing up Your symptoms get worse Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour

Heat Cramps

WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
Heavy sweating during intense exercise Muscle pain or spasms	Stop physical activity and move to a cool place Drink water or a sports drink Wait for cramps to go away before you do any more physical activity **Get medical help right if:** Cramps last longer than 1 hour You're on a low-sodium diet You have heart problems

Sunburn

WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
Painful, red, and warm skin Blisters on Skin	Stay out of the sun until your sunburn heals Put cool cloths on sunburned areas or take a cool bath Put moisturizing lotion on sunburned areas Do not break blister

Heat Rash

WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
Red clusters of small blisters that look like pimples on the skin (usually on neck, chest, groin, or in elbow creases)	Stay in a cool, dry place Keep rashes dry Use powder (like baby powder) to sooth the rash

Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Tips:

■ Stay in an air-conditioned area during the hottest hours of the day.

■ Wear light, loose-fitting clothing.

■ Drink water often. Don't wait until you're thirsty.

■ Avoid unnecessary hard work or activities if you are outside or in a building without air-conditioning

■ Avoid unnecessary sun exposure. When in the sun, wear a hat, preferably with a wide brim. ***(PR)***

Public reminded of proper hand hygiene, food safety

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Public Health/Hospital Emergency Preparedness Program and Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity programs would like to remind the community that proper hand hygiene is the key element to infection prevention and control in both the healthcare settings and in the community.

Be food smart and keep food refrigerated, wrapped, and away from direct sunlight at picnic/barbeque events. Keeping hands clean through improved hand hygiene is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Many diseases and conditions are spread by not washing hands with soap and clean, running water.

Common symptoms of foodborne diseases are nausea, vomiting, stomach cramps, and diarrhea. However, symptoms may differ among the different types of foodborne diseases. Symptoms can sometimes be severe and some foodborne illnesses can even be life-threatening. Although anyone can get a foodborne illness, some people are more likely to develop one. Those groups include:

- Pregnant women
- Young children
- Older adults
- People with immune systems weakened from medical conditions, such as diabetes, liver disease, kidney disease, organ transplants, HIV/AIDS, or from receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatment.

Precautionary measures

- Food Safety:

-Clean your hands and surfaces when preparing food

-Do not cross contaminate as raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs can spread germs to ready-to-eat foods—unless you keep them separate.

-Thoroughly cook meals to kill germs that can make you sick.

-Refrigerate food promptly

- Practice Hand Hygiene:

-Before and after caring for someone who is sick

-Before and after treating a cut or wound

-After using the toilet

-After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet

-After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

-After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste

-After handling pet food or pet treats

-After touching garbage

Most people with a foodborne illness get better without medical treatment, but people with severe symptoms should see their doctor or primary care physician. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Library closed Thursday and half day Friday

Due to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. scheduled power outage, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on the following days:

- Thursday, June 21, 2018, closed
- Friday, June 22, 2018, closed 9am-1pm

Library hours will resume Friday, June 22, 2018 from 1pm to 5:30pm. We appreciate your cooperation, and apologize for the inconvenience.

For the latest news and events, please visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. Please call the library at 670-235-7322/23 for questions/concerns. The library's summer hours are as follows (effective June 12-Aug. 4): Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. ***(PR)***

5 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged five Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are American Memorial Park, Plumeria Hotel, Grandvrio(Hafa Adai) Hotel, Garapan Fishing Dock, and Sugar Dock.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

NMHC seeking volunteers for language project

Anyone who can speak Chamorro, Carolinian, Palauan, Chukeese, Korsrae, Pohnpeian, Karibati, Yapese, and Marshalese. Please contact the Northern Marianas Humanities Council at 235-4785.

Dr. Thomas Stolz, a professor of University of Bremen in Germany, will be visiting Saipan from July 20 to 31. He would like to conduct interviews with the native speakers. The total volunteer time is only two hours. Visit NMHC's Facebook page 670humanities for details or call NMHC. ***(PR)***

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2. Business FirstTerm APR of 5.24% is for partially secured business loans from $2,500 up to $75,000 with terms up to 60 months. Rate is effective 5/1/18 through 6/30/18 and is for certain loan amounts and terms. Other rates and terms are available. Subject to credit approval and other restrictions apply. $200 Documentation Preparation Fee is waived. Priority Banking discounts do not apply. Existing First Hawaiian Bank Business FirstTerm loans do not qualify for the promotion.

Mother of 2 minor US children loses long legal fight

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood has dismissed with prejudice a lawsuit that challenges a final order by an immigration judge of removal from the CNMI filed by a Filipino mother of two minor U.S. children, including one who has a medical condition.

Dismissal with prejudice means Amalia Abo Guanlao can no longer re-file her petition for a writ of habeas corpus, through which she seeks to appeal the immigration judge's removal order.

Guanlao, who herself has a medical condition, has been residing on Saipan for over 24 years now.

In an order issued Tuesday that granted U.S. Homeland Security officials' motion to dismiss, Tydingco-Gatewood said since Guanlao failed to exhaust administrative remedies of her claims, she would generally be required to return to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) to pursue them.

However, Tydingco-Gatewood said, the 30-day window for filing a motion to reopen the case has lapsed, and the District Court lacks jurisdiction to order the window reopened.

Thus, the judge said, Guanlao cannot prevail on her due process claim in the District Court, before the BIA, or before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

"While this outcome may seem harsh, especially given the alleged deficiencies of multiple attorneys involved in this case, the court is not empowered to do more than authorized by the constitution and by statute," said Tydingco-Gatewood, adding that she cannot grant Guanlao the relief that she seeks.

She directed the clerk of court to close Guanlao's case.

Aside from naming then-U.S. Department of Homeland secretary Jeh Johnson as respondent, Guanlao also sued several U.S. immigration officials.

Rosemond Santos appeared as counsel for Guanlao. Before having Santos as her lawyer, for many months she had sought for a lawyer after her previous counsel was disbarred.

In her petition, Guanlao alleges that her attorney, Alice Rae, was ineffective because she failed to advise her that she could appeal the final order of removal to the Ninth Circuit.

Thus, Guanlao argued, she was denied due process and is entitled to an order reopening the 30-day period for filing an appeal of the final order of removal and for filing an appeal of the BIA's rejection of the defective motions to reopen filed by Rae and another lawyer that she did not identify.

DHS officials, through the U.S. Attorney's Office, argued that Guanlao has reasserted the previously dismissed claims, and these must be dismissed.

DHS officials also contended that Guanlao has not established that Rae's performance was deficient, or, even if it were deficient, that she was prejudiced by Rae's performance.

In granting DHS officials' motion to dismiss, Tydingco-Gatewood said the District Court in its decision issued on Oct. 31, 2016, the court has jurisdiction to hear only a "narrow claim of ineffective assistance of counsel in connection with a post-administrative filing of an appeal with the court of appeals."

Tydingco-Gatewood said consistent with the Oct. 31 decision, the District Court cannot reopen the window to petition for review with the court of appeals with respect to the rejection of the defective motion to reopen and the untimely motion to reopen.

The court, she said, therefore, lacks the authority to reopen the window to petition the Ninth Circuit to consider the June 22, 2015 rejection of the defective motion to reopen filed by Rae and the March 2, 2016 denied of the untimely motion.

With respect to Guanlao's due process violation claim, Tydingco-Gatewood said because Guanlao has alleged that Rae failed to inform her about appealing the final removal order and that she would have appealed it if she had been told of the option, she is entitled to the presumption of prejudice.

However, the judge pointed out, Guanlao did not raise the due process claim with the BIA and has thus failed to exhaust the administrative remedies as required.

In her declaration filed in court, Guanlao disclosed that since 2013 she has been suffering with pain in her left breast and back.

She underwent operation in the Philippines in 2008, but since then had never any follow-up check-up.

Guanlao said her husband has been working on Saipan since 1989.

Guanlao said their two minor children were born on Saipan.

"They are the reason why I want to live longer and to be with them to the rest of my life," she said.

U.S District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has stayed pending further court's order the removal of Guanlao while the court hears her petition on the merits.

Project PROA Summer Camp registration deadline tomorrow

Northern Marianas College is reminding interested high school juniors, seniors, and recent high school graduates from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that the registration deadline for the Project PROA Summer Camp is Friday, June 22, 2018. Registration is free and applications can be submitted online or at Project PROA in Room G1 at NMC's As Terlaje campus on Saipan.

The Project PROA Summer Camp is a three-week program that aims to prepare students who plan on attending NMC for college success and to provide them with the opportunity to strengthen their ties to their cultural heritage with various activities and field trips.

Five organizations confirmed their participation in the camp, which will begin on Monday, July 9, 2018. These organizations include 500 sails, Carolinian Affairs Office, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, American Memorial Park, and NMC's Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education, Services.

The camp will consist of two sessions. The morning session will be focused on academics and strengthening their English and math skills to help better prepare students for college. The afternoon session will be focused on other engaging cultural activities.

The activities that the participants will be learning include swimming, beading, weaving, cultural dancing, and Utt building. Additional activities will focus on learning the history of the Proa, Carolinian and Chamorro methods of navigation and sail, and the native agriculture in the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Project PROA Summer Camp registration deadline is June 22, 2018. In the photo are last year's participants preparing to sail the *Neni* taught by the members of 500 Sails. For more information, contact Malyssa Castro, Project PROA Program Coordinator, at (670) 237-6777 or by email at projectproa@marianas.edu.

To qualify for the camp, participants must be a high school junior, senior, or recent high school graduate and self-identify as Chamorro and/or Carolinian, per grant requirements. Interested individuals must be program eligible to participate.

Participation is free with lunch and snacks provided as well.

Seats will be on a first-come, first-serve basis so interested students are encouraged to submit their application or visit the PROA Center in Building G at the NMC Saipan As Terlaje Campus, between 8am and 5pm.

Application forms are available online at www.marianas.edu/projectproa.php or at Project PROA in Room G1 and must be submitted no later than Friday, June 22, 2018 at 4:00pm. Orientation will be held on Friday, July 6, 2018 from 9am to 12pm in NMC's As Terlaje Campus on Saipan.

For more information, contact Malyssa Castro, Project PROA Program Coordinator, at (670) 237-6777 or by email at projectproa@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

JKPL Summer Bookmobile Outreach sked

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is excited to bring the collaborative summer library program out to the community.

This year, the Bookmobile will be spending four days at five different locations:

- July 10-13, 9:30am-12pm , Koblerville Youth Learning Center
- July 17-20, 9:30am-12pm , San Antonio Youth Learning Center
- July 24-27, 9:30am-12pm , Tanapag Youth Center
- July 24-27, 9:30am-12pm , Kagman Elementary School

This free program will be open to 6-12-year-olds, and will include read alouds, crafts, music, and more.

To register, visit the library and ask for Leora or Emily. Please note the library summer hours listed below. Questions? Call the library at (670) 235-7323/22 or email Leora Terlaje (Outreach Services) at leorasablanjkpl@gmail.com or Emily Van Weerdhuizen (Librarian II) at emily.jkpl@gmail.com.

For the latest news and events, please visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. Please call the library at 670-235-7322/23 for questions/concerns. The library's summer hours are as follows (effective June 12-Aug. 4): Tuesday; Friday, 9am-5:30pm; Saturday, 9am- 4pm; and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. The Bookmobile Digital Literacy Program is funded through the Institute of Museum and Library Services 2017 Competitive Grant award # LS-01-17-0052-17/LS-01-17-0058-17. ***(PR)***

Bordallo: Senate passes FY19 NDAA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo recently announced that the U.S. Senate has passed their National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, by a vote of 85 to 10. The Senate version authorizes $716 billion in national defense spending for the coming fiscal year.

The Senate bill includes over $300 million in Guam military construction projects supporting the Marine relocation, Navy base upgrades, and Andersen Air Base housing improvements. The bill builds upon provisions supported by Congresswoman Bordallo in last year's national defense bill, authorizing new military funding to help cleanup per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination at formerly used defense sites and help public utilities like the Guam Waterworks Authority ensure safe civilian drinking water sources. Congresswoman Bordallo worked to ensure that Guam sites, including Guam National Guard sites, are included and eligible for this environmental cleanup funding from the U.S. military under the bill.

Bordallo

"I am glad to see bipartisan support in the Senate for the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act. The Senate has largely agreed with the Guam military construction spending I secured in the House last month (H.R.5515). This funding is critical to the Marine relocation to Guam and ensuring our island's defense capabilities remain among the best in the world. More military construction spending and new funding to clean up contaminated sites and ensure safe drinking water on Guam are wins for our island. However, I am disappointed that the Senate did give adequate consideration to Guam's workforce shortages, particularly our off-base construction and healthcare workers. I am working to ensure that my Senate and House colleagues understand the importance of extending H-2B visa relief for Guam this year, and I will work to resolve this matter when the House and Senate meet in conference."

» Includes Bordallo provisions important to Guam

"I will continue to hold the Navy and Department of Defense accountable to their commitment to the people of Guam to hold less land at the conclusion of the Marine relocation than presently. It is important to me that the list of lands the Navy expects to return to GovGuam be made available to the public. I expect the military to return more land faster and consider our petitions for additional land parcels to be returned to Guam families."

"I look forward to working with my Senate and House colleagues over the next several weeks during conference to get our Guam priorities enacted into law this year." ***(PR)***

Bordallo seeks federal assistance for GMH Medicare challenges

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo recently wrote to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Office of Insular Affairs to request federal assistance for the Guam Memorial Hospital. Bordallo expressed her concern that Guam's only public hospital may lose its Medicare provider status. She requested that time be granted for GMH to remedy deficiencies identified by CMS in a June 5, 2018 letter.

Bordallo further requested that CMS and OIA establish a federal task force to provide GMH with technical assistance to comply with federal Medicare requirements. She referenced a similar task force that was established to provide assistance to the CNMI Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation when it faced similar challenges in 2013. Congresswoman Bordallo believes that similar consideration should be given to Guam and that coordinated efforts should be provided to assist GMH as it identifies and corrects program insufficiencies.

"I am deeply concerned that CMS may terminate GMH's Medicare provider agreement. While there are certainly broader reforms that are needed to assist GMH, losing Medicare provider status at Guam's only public hospital would have serious negative implications on our community. GMH must work to comply with federal requirements and rectify deficiencies identified by CMS's recent survey, but coordinated efforts within the federal government will provide needed support to help GMH through this process. I am working with CMS and OIA to provide this assistance so that GMH can continue to provide Medicare services to our people." ***(PR)***

GRMC welcomes in-house podiatrist

DEDEDO, Guam—Guam Regional Medical City welcomes Dr. Phillip Tutnauer, D.P.M., who joins the hospital's list of providers as an in-house podiatrist.

Tutnauer, who comes to Guam from New Jersey where he practiced for over 25 years, will be part of GRMC's growing Specialty Clinics. Tutnauer is skilled in treating all phases of Podiatry, including foot and ankle injuries, fractures, sports injuries, arthritic issues, fungal issues and diabetic foot care, the latter two being prevalent on Guam. He also treats pediatric foot issues. Tutnauer has a special interest in evaluating and treating patients with custom fabricated orthotics, or foot supports like splints and braces, preventing falls for the elderly especially as it relates to balance issues.

Tutnauer

"Dr. Tutnauer's services literally gives us boots on the ground in achieving our mission to treat our patients from head to toe. Having happy feet is generally undervalued until it is compromised. In addition to his expertise in complex cases, preventative care will be his focus. At GRMC, we embrace standard recommendations for all diabetics to have, at minimum, an annual foot exam," said Dr. Felix T. Cabrera, chief medical officer of GRMC.

Tutnauer is currently seeing patients at GRMC. To make an appointment, please call 645-5500. ***(PR)***

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY**
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda
   d. Adoption of Minutes
      1) May 31, 2018 - Regular Meeting

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**[1]

III. **REPORTS**
   a. Chair's Report
   b. Executive Director's Report

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   a) Proposed House Local Bill to Enact the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989
   b) Ratification of Professional Services Agreement
      Transcend IT Solutions – Mr. Mark Badal

V. **NEW BUSINESS**
   (a) Status Updates on Casino Licensees
      1) Alter City Group, Inc.
      2) Bridge Investment Group, LLC. /Clear Management Ltd.
      3) Tinian Entertainment Company, Ltd.
   b) TCGCC Budget – Fiscal Year 2019
   c) Approval of 2 Months Professional Services Contract for Internet Gaming Technical Standards and IT Regulations

VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**[2]

VII. **MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

[1]Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP18-BECQ/DCRM-101

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 09, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"GARAPAN FIELD SURVEILLANCE PROJECT FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY, DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP CAN BE MADE IN ANY MODE OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO **MS. KATIE GRAZIANO**, VIA E-MAIL TO kgraziano@dcrm.gov.mp **NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., JUNE 25, 2018.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-DPW/RG-110 (A-B)

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 16, 2018 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "H" PICK-UP TRUCK, 2WD, ACCESS CAB (A) AND ONE (1) CLASS "H" PICK-UP TRUCK 4X4, FOUR-FULL DOORS (B) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, DIVISION OF ROADS AND GROUNDS"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

TH PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP18-OVR-109

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 16, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE MADE IN ANY MODE OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION AND **MUST** BE SUBMITTED TO **MS. ARLENE YAMAGATA**, VIA E-MAIL TO: nmidir@ovrgov.net **NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., JULY 06, 2018.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ARLENE KAY A.YAMAGATA
DIRECTOR OF OVR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING THE SECTION 106 REVIEW AND UTILIZATION OF TREATMENT MEASURES TO RESOLVE ADVERSE EFFECTS TO AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE ON KANNAT TABLA ROAD ON THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN, UNDER FEMA'S HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM- SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT

Typhoon Soudelor impacted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) in August of 2015, resulting in the federally declared disaster FEMA-4235-DR. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is issuing this public notice as a part of its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as amended. This notice applies to activities carried out by FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) which is authorized by §404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

FEMA's HMGP Program provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster. FEMA received an application for funding from the CNMI Department of Public Works for drainage improvements intended to mitigate flooding and erosion along Kannat Tabla Road on the Island of Saipan (Undertaking). The Undertaking will involve drainage and road improvements associated with the collection of storm water runoff from the road and conveyance to the existing CMS Quarry, where it is expected to infiltrate.

The Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, require FEMA, as the funding agency, to identify if any properties within the project area are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); to assess the effects the undertaking will have on historic properties; and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects.

In advance of approving this undertaking, FEMA conducted preliminary consultations regarding the scope of historic property identification requirements between the CNMI Historic Preservation Office (HPO) Personnel, and Southeastern Archaeological Research Inc. (SEARCH), working on behalf of FEMA. An Archaeological Research Design was developed in compliance with the requirements of the CNMI Historic Preservation Act of 1982 (Public Law 3-39), Section 106 of the NHPA, and consultation with the CNMI-HPO in accordance with the *"Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Historic Preservation Officer, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management"* (PA) Stipulation II.C.

An archaeological survey of the area of potential effects resulted in the identification and documentation of archaeological site SP-1-1047, a prehistoric ceramic and shell midden, which was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D for its potential to yield information regarding the temporal association, nature, and function of prehistoric habitation settlements within Saipan's interior upland environments.

FEMA determined the ground disturbance necessary for the drainage improvements will adversely effect site SP-1-1047, and recommended a Treatment Plan in the form of archaeological data recovery prior to implementation of the project, and monitoring by a qualified archaeologist during all ground disturbing construction related to the Kannat Tabla. The CNMI-HPO has concurred with this recommendation. FEMA is also inviting members of the public to comment on the FEMA-funded action and provide any comments and suggestions including ways to mitigate the adverse effects.

Comments and requests regarding the Treatment Measures may be submitted to FEMA for a 14-day period beginning June 20, 2018 and may be submitted via email at: FEMA-RIX-EHP-Documents@fema.dhs.gov or by regular mail. Mailed comments and requests must be postmarked by July 10, 2018 and sent to:

Alessandro Amaglio, Regional Environmental Officer
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, CA, 94607

MVA partners with Samsonite

The Marianas Visitors Authority has partnered with Samsonite Korea, the worldwide leader in superior travel luggage and accessories, on a consumer promotion targeting summer vacation season. Five lucky winners of the promotion will receive a Saipan travel voucher including airline tickets and accommodation for two people to spend a wonderful holiday in this resort destination.

Samsonite Korea recently opened up its very first concept store, Life is @Journey, in Lotte Department Store in Seoul and Busan for one-stop travel shopping. Guests can not only purchase travel goods, but also book their trip at an agency located within the Life is @Journey store. This month The Marianas destination is being exposed with vivid images, and the event is being promoted at the store through plasma displays and printed material such as pop-up banners.

"The MVA's tie up with Samsonite is another great partnership with a world-renowned brand aimed at enhancing our image and reaching more of the travelling public. It's a tremendous exposure opportunity," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Any customer who makes a purchase of $200 or more from the Life is @Journey store from June 4 to June 30 will have a chance to win The Marianas travel voucher and visit our beautiful islands."

The MVA and Samsonite Korea will randomly select the winners among the qualified and notify the winners through a posting on Facebook and Instagram on July 10.

"We are very excited to work with Marianas Visitors Authority, as the destination is very vibrant and loved by Korean travelers all time around," said Samsonite officials.

So far this fiscal year, nearly 200,000 visitors from South Korea have visited The Marianas, comprising 48 percent of all visitors to the destination.

MVA is partnering with Samsonite Korea, the worldwide leader in superior travel luggage and accessories, on a summer promotion for The Marianas. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Marianas Visitors Authority launches a joint promotion for The Marianas at Samsonite Korea's concept shop Life is @Journey on June 6, 2018. Samsonite is the worldwide leader in superior travel luggage and accessories.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Marianas Visitors Authority launches a joint promotion for The Marianas at Samsonite Korea's concept shop Life is @Journey on June 6, 2018.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Marianas Visitors Authority launches a joint promotion for The Marianas at Samsonite Korea's concept shop Life is @Journey on June 6, 2016. Qualified shoppers will be eligible to enter a drawing for air tickets and accommodations in Saipan.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 21, 2000

Quarantine alerted on food from FSM

The CNMI government has mobilized its quarantine personnel stationed at both the islands' air and sea transport facilities to guard against the entry of all food items from the Federated States of Micronesia feared to be contaminated with cholera-causing bacteria. The Quarantine Division of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources has been instructed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to strictly enforce the restriction on the entry of food from the island-nation until it is cleared of the infectious disease. According to DLNR spokesperson Marian Concepcion, quarantine personnel have been ordered to confiscate all inbound food items, both cooked and raw, from the FSM beginning Monday up until the cholera outbreak in the country has been contained.

HANMI: Don't change BGRT Law

The Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands has asked the House of Representatives to defer action on a proposed measure that will amend the Business Gross Revenue tax because it would have a negative effect on the hotel and tourism industry. In a letter to House Ways and Means Committee Chair Antonio M. Camacho, David Wiseman, legal counsel of HANMI, said the hotel association does not see any need to amend the Gross Revenue provisions of the Code since this concern has already been addressed under existing laws. Disrupting the tourism commitments during the term of existing contracts could upset the existing arrangements and conditions and threaten the agreements with tour operators that handle the arrival of visitors in the Northern Marianas.

June 21, 2004

CUC reevaluating tank clean up option

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is reevaluating whether to go ahead with the cleanup of a 20,000-barrel fuel tank or to build a new one. During a meeting last week, the board said it wants to know whether the cleanup would be cost-effective. "A re-evaluation will be made if it's worth to refurbish the tank or just build a new tank," said board member Joseph Torres. Right now, CUC said the tank is filled with waste oil from another company. The private company, which reportedly collects used oil from hotels and other establishments on island, had used the tank after it had undergone cleanup. The CUC board has said that the outages could have been avoided despite a delay in the arrival of fuel shipment if CUC had enough number of fuel storage tanks.

Telesource: Expedite power privatization

Telesource CNMI president KJ Semikian called on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to go ahead with the privatization of its main power plant and, at the same time, expedite its procurement process for emergency back-up power generation on Saipan. This even as Semikian expressed concern over CUC's plan to bring in a power barge to address the current power shortage. Semikian, in a letter dated June 14, 2004 to CUC board chair Herman P. Sablan, also took exception to the proposed relocation and expansion of Pacific Marine & Industrial Corp., operator of the Puerto Rico power plant. He said Telesource is "a longstanding member of the CNMI community that is extremely qualified to provide precisely the type of power services that the CUC would apparently like to obtain."

June 21, 2005

House to introduce 'education bill'

The House Ways and Means Committee is inclined to introduce a bill that appropriates funding for three agencies: Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and the CNMI Scholarship Office. Rep. Norman S. Palacios, chair of the committee, said yesterday that, instead of offering a piecemeal budget for PSS alone, his panel saw it fit to include the two other agencies. House members earlier expressed support to granting the PSS its entire budget request of $50 million. House Education Committee chair Justo S. Quitugua said his office has drafted a separate PSS budget for FY 2006. PSS officials have been lobbying both the Legislature and the Executive Branch for a new budget next fiscal year. PSS currently receives $37.2 million a year.

MVA: Japan summit ends on a positive note

The Marianas Tourism Summit led by Gov. Juan N. Babauta was held on Friday, June 17, 2005 at the Dai-Ichi Tokyo, Japan. The summit agenda included discussions on the economic and tourism impact of a Japan Airlines pullout, followed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority's cost incentive program and ending with the Marianas Visitors Authority's marketing incentive program. Several Japan key industry officials attended the summit to show support of the CNMI product as a prime destination for guests from Japan. They also were interested in learning what the government's plans are to reduce the effects of a JAL pullout. CNMI participants included representatives from the Legislature, CPA, MVA, and the Strategic Economic Development Council.

Domenech concludes first official visit to Palau

» Celebrates $123M under signed US Compact review agreement

» Promises close collaboration with federal partners to finalize and deliver funding

PALAU—U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech concluded his first official visit to the Republic of Palau where he conferred with President Tommy Remengesau, Jr. on the Compact of Free Association relationship and met with other government and non-government officials. Accompanying the Assistant Secretary on his trip to Palau were OIA Director Nikolao Pula and staff.

"Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and I are pleased that the Department of the Interior, the Department of State and other federal partners are working closely to conclude the Palau Compact Review Agreement as soon as possible," said Domenech. "The United States will continue to partner with Palau. Our interests are closely tied to a vibrant Palau that has a sustained future."

The U.S. and Palau governments are working to update the funding schedule of the 2010 Palau Compact Agreement which required specific annual outlays of funds. Included in the assistance are contributions to the Palau Compact Trust Fund, a capital improvement program, and an infrastructure maintenance plan. The specifics of disbursements must be reaffirmed by the parties prior to implementation of the agreement. As required under U.S. law, before finalizing the agreement, the State Department is coordinating closely with Interior and other federal partners to initiate what is referred to as the Circular 175 process for authority to amend and conclude the Palau Compact Review Agreement.

In addition to delivering a $323,333 grant in technical assistance to Palau President Remengesau for the Ministry of Finance record-keeping upgrades, Domenech and his team visited the Palau Energy Office and the Palau Bureau of Lands and Survey. They also took a behind-the-scenes tour of the customs and immigration system at the airport and discussed various other projects funded through the Office of Insular Affairs Technical Assistance Program.

Domenech met with Patrick Tellei, President of the Palau Community College and several deans and administrators where he toured the new library and learned about the college's long history of educating students in Palau and the larger Micronesia region. He met a mechanics class in the Maintenance Assistance Program, additional and capacity building training program at the college also funded through the Department of the Interior.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech at the Palau Community College-Maintenance Assistance Program training program in mechanics.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech at the U.S. Coast Guard acceptance event.

The Assistant Secretary toured portions of the Compact Road in Babeldaob, a significant U.S.-funded infrastructure project completed in 2010, which provided access around the island of Babeldaob and opened up opportunities for development in Palau. He visited the Belau National Museum and Bai er a Airai, a traditional Palauan chief's meeting house in Airai, listed on the Palau National Register of Historic Places and believed to be at least 180 years old.

While on island, Domenech joined U.S. Ambassador Amy Hyatt for an Appointment Acceptance Ceremony of Palauan citizen Saxon Shay Isim into the United States Coast Guard Academy, an example of the dedicated service that Palauans give in service to the U.S. Armed Forces in defense of global prosperity and mutual democratic ideals. The ceremony was attended by Palau's paramount traditional chiefs, Ibedul Gibbons and Reklai Ngirmang, each of them veterans themselves of the U.S. Armed Forces. Numerous elected officials were also in attendance with friends and family members.

Following the USCG ceremony, Domenech and Hyatt met with Palau Vice President Raymond Oilouch, also the Minister of Justice for Palau where they discussed a variety of issues under the strong and long-standing U.S.-Palau relationship.

On the final day of his visit, Domenech toured the U.S. National Historical Landmark on Peleliu where some of the deadliest World War II battles were waged in the Pacific. He laid a wreath in honor of the over 2000 American lives lost in the battle to capture Peleliu. While on Peleliu, Domenech met with Peleliu Governor Temmy Shmull and took a ride through Palau's Rock Islands that were inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2012. The cultural and historical tours were made available courtesy of the Governors of Koror, Airai, and Peleliu and organized by the Palau Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation, an important partner of the National Park Service Historic Preservation Program.

"Palauans have built a democratic government based on the rule of law and democratic ideals of freedom and liberty while maintaining their unique Palauan culture and heritage. They have also done an excellent job protecting Palau's cultural, historical, and natural resources for future generations," said OIA Director Nikolai Pula. "The United States values its strong relationship with this proud small island nation in the Indo-Pacific region."

Since the implementation of the Compact of Free Association in 1994 and with the recent signing of the Palau Compact Review Agreement, the United States will have provided over $700 million to Palau. This U.S. investment under the Compact, and numerous other federal programs, have provided funds for essential government operations and law enforcement, built the Compact road, secured the airport, monitored weather patterns, immunized children, opened doors to higher education, and provided postal services. U.S. Government support overall has helped lay the foundation for a stable government, where democratic principles and the rule of law thrive, adding a measure of economic security to the islands. Many Palauan citizens have taken the opportunity to study, work, and serve in the U.S. Armed Forces in the United States, further strengthening the U.S.-Palau relationship and taking advantage of additional opportunities for growth and development.

The Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees Federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA supports the Secretary's mission of Fulfilling Trust and Insular Responsibilities through balancing efforts and limited resources towards stronger economic and health capacities, and fiscal accountability in the U.S. insular areas. ***(PR)***

U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech at Airai Bai or traditional meetinghouse with friends.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech lays a wreath at U.S. memorial grave in honor of all who fought during World War II.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

A crying shame, in our country's name

You needn't be clairvoyant to foresee that the Trump administration's policy of confiscating immigrant children as if they were forbidden contraband will one day be remembered as one of the darkest moments in U.S. legal history. It is destined to take its place alongside the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision and the Roosevelt administration's internment of Japanese-Americans as a signal reminder that even a nation dedicated to liberty and justice for all can lose its way.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders' embarrassing attempts to conjure scriptural authority for the government's practice of separating children from their undocumented parents cannot disguise its intrinsic cruelty. Images like the one reproduced here have already diminished America's moral stature among freedom-loving peoples around the world, including many who historically regarded the United States as the ultimate defender of human rights.

To be clear, the White House has not explicitly ordered federal border agents to wrest babies from the breasts of mothers seeking asylum in the U.S.

But Attorney General Jeff Sessions' insistence that any adult suspected of attempting to enter the country illegally be criminally prosecuted, and dispatched to a federal jail, makes such separations inevitable, because federal law forbids children from accompanying their parents to such facilities.

Reports that parents who present themselves at the border to request asylum are being similarly jailed and separated from their children compound the government's culpability for what has become a self-inflicted humanitarian crisis.

The Obama administration's practice of housing undocumented families indefinitely in overcrowded detention facilities was not dramatically more humane, and the federal courts eventually intervened to curtailed it, ordering that most families be released pending deportation hearings. Inevitably, some of those released from detention have opted to go off the government's radar, swelling the population of undocumented aliens the president likens to a pandemic plague.

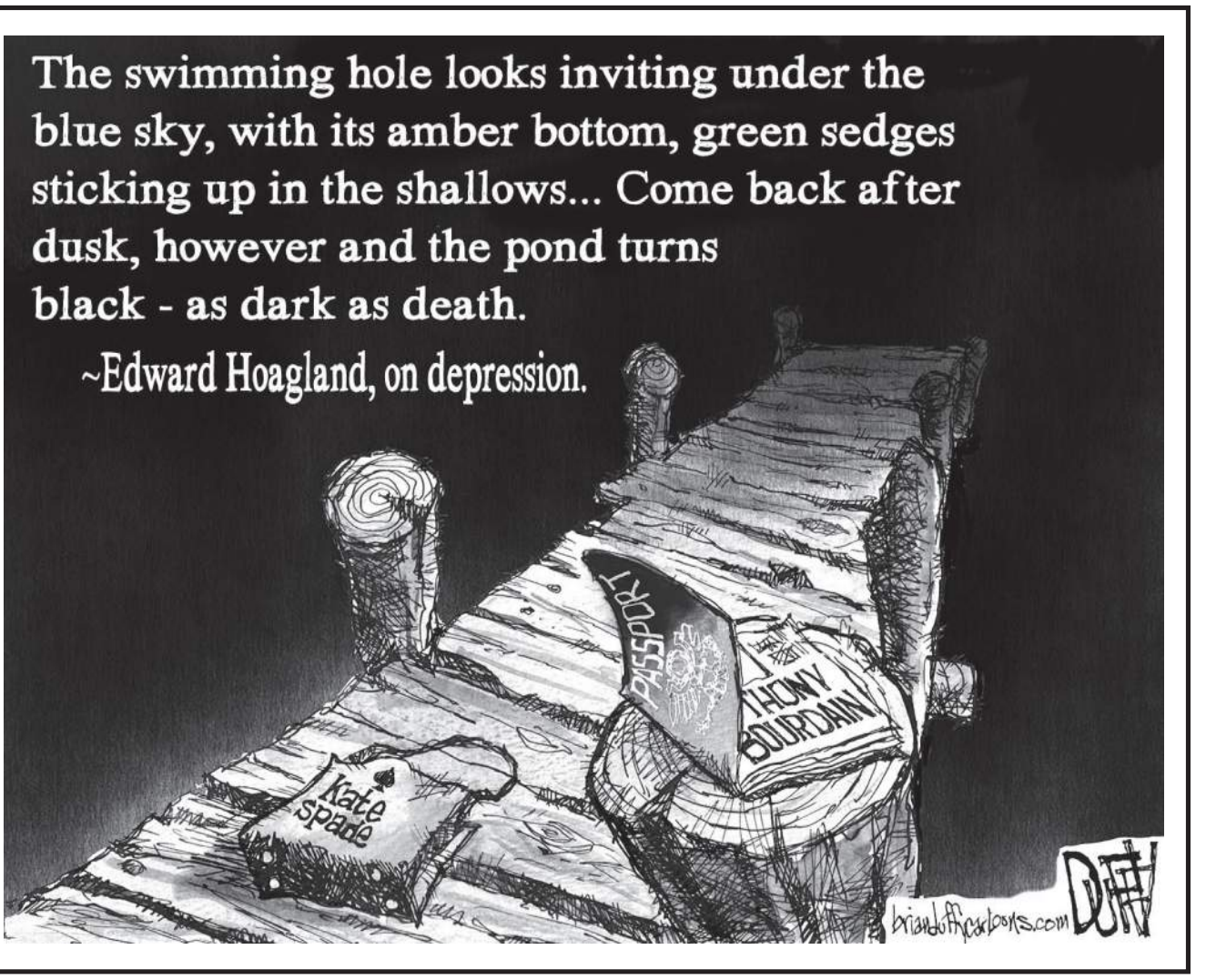
But the Trump administration's draconian solution — the hyper-criminalization of what is, for most, a desperate flight toward physical safety and economic security — has run roughshod over the defenseless immigrant children in its path.

Those responsible for sorting out custody disputes and allegations of parental neglect have recognized for decades that involuntary separation from one's parents is a traumatic event of seismic proportions. The law generally allows such separations only when they are necessary to assure a child's well-being.

That's why family court judges and lawyers have been particularly shocked and sickened by the government's callous disregard for the best interests of immigrant children.

If another country's border patrol agents were seizing children from their parents and warehousing them abandoned discount stores, it might suffice to condemn those abuses, demand access for inspectors from the International Red Cross, and call for diplomatic intervention by the U.S. and allies who were proud, in better times, to link arms with

See COUNTRY'S on Next Page


The swimming hole looks inviting under the blue sky, with its amber bottom, green sedges sticking up in the shallows... Come back after dusk, however and the pond turns black - as dark as death.
~Edward Hoagland, on depression.
PASSPORT
ANTHONY BOURDAIN
Kate Spade
briantuffcartoons.com
DUFFY

Reasonable politicians need to take immigration more seriously

By JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online *and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at JonahsColumn@aol.com.*

Nearly everyone can agree: The scene at the southern border is a horror.

Even those who somehow think that it isn't a moral horror to see little kids pulled from their parents and put in cages — or, to use the preferred term among White House defenders, "chain-link partitioned holding areas" — recognize that it is a political horror. If the politics weren't so bad, supporters wouldn't be so desperate to come up with more palatable euphemisms.

As ugly as things are, it's worth remembering that the Obama administration had similar struggles and similar responses. The point here isn't "whataboutism." It's simply to note that the U.S., not any particular administration, faces a very difficult challenge, shared by other economically advanced nations: Untold millions of poor people want to be richer, and they believe they can make that happen simply by moving here or to Western Europe. And they're right.

It may be 2018 on everyone's calendar, but that doesn't mean we all live in the same moment. Very poor people become richer by moving here because, in a sense, they are moving to the future.

Imagine you live in a poor village in Asia or Africa (or in Appalachia 150 years ago) where you still need to fetch water from a well or even a river a mile away. In terms of time used and energy exerted, you'd be richer if you moved to the U.S. even if you spent the rest of your life poor by our standards. Mere access to clean tap water, electricity and indoor plumbing is considered a luxury in some parts of the world. Not to mention the rule of law, human rights, freedom of conscience, etc.

By crossing the U.S. border, low-skilled Mexican laborers automatically become 10 to 20 times more productive. It's not because their work ethic magically improves. It's because our economy has countless productivity multipliers built into it, from better machinery to better laws and more efficient institutions and practices.

William Lewis, the former director of the McKinsey Global Institute, found that illiterate, non-English-speaking Mexican agricultural laborers in the U.S. were four times more productive than the same sort of laborers in Brazil. Take a Yemeni bus driver and put him behind the wheel of a bus in the U.S. According to economists Michael Clemens, Claudio Montenegro and Lant Pritchett, the Yemeni bus driver will become 15 times more productive doing the same job, mostly because the people he's driving around are more productive too.

This is not an argument for open borders. I simply want to point out that so long as there are very poor countries, very poor people will understandably want to move here. This would be true even if those poor countries had solved all of the other problems — violence, anarchy, persecution — that cause decent people to want to flee home.

In other words, supply will exceed demand for a very long time to come. Even if we tripled our intake of legal immigrants, more would still want to come.

The best long-term solution to this problem is to make poor countries rich as quickly as possible. In the meantime, the immediate challenge presented by this level of desire to immigrate to the U.S. is going to be less economic and more political and cultural. Immigrants bring new customs, values and ideas of how society should work. As the Swiss writer Max Frisch famously said of the guest workers his country imported, "We wanted workers, but we got people instead."

Waves of immigrants invite reactions. Many people like to call these backlashes racist, and in some cases they are. But they are also entirely natural, human responses to sudden cultural changes. German Chancellor Angela Merkel's government may fall because of one such reaction. (The 86 percent of Germans who want to see a more forceful approach to repatriation can't all be bigots.) Votes in favor of Brexit didn't strongly correlate with unemployment very much, but they did with attitudes on immigration.

President Trump's election was in part a reaction to high levels of immigration, legal and illegal. If people don't want unreasonable politicians to exploit immigration-fueled anxiety, then reasonable politicians on both sides need to take immigration far more seriously than they have so far. If they don't, things will get much worse than the spectacle on the border today.

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The soccer world isn't doing enough to combat its homophobia and racism

By SCOTT MARTELLE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Here's a reason not to root for Mexico in the World Cup soccer tournament: fans of El Tri chanting anti-gay slurs at players on the field.

FIFA, the troubled organization that oversees world soccer, opened an investigation into reports that Mexico fans chanted the insult Sunday as German goalkeeper Manuel Neuer got ready for a goal kick (putting the ball back in play after it went out of bounds).

Yet this isn't anything new, nor limited to Mexico fans. In fact, Los Angeles Galaxy fans chanted the slur during a May match at StubHub Center in Carson against FC Dallas on — wait for it — the club's "Pride Night" celebration for fans. But it has been a persistent problem FIFA has failed to properly counter. As the Guardian reports:

"FIFA issued 51 disciplinary actions over homophobia during 2018 World Cup qualifiers. Of these, 11 were handed to the Mexican federation, with Argentina, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama and Peru also receiving multiple fines. FIFA additionally cited Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay, Greece, Hungary and Serbia once each for homophobic chants."

Racist taunting is also a problem. In March, Russia fans directed monkey noises at black French players during an exhibition game between the two national teams in St. Petersburg. That cost the Russian federation a $31,000 fine.

But fines have not deterred such behavior, and that points up one of the fundamental problems with soccer's attempts to control racism, homophobic slurs and other unsavory aspects of fan behavior.

FIFA doesn't have the will to take meaningful steps to address the problems. It's true that its options are limited — an international federation doesn't have much direct control over fans in disparate countries. But it does have some tools beyond the slap-on-the-wrist fines.

It can (and occasionally does) halt play when the crowd starts hurling bigoted epithets and taunts, which is what it should have done Sunday as the fans did their "ehhhh …. puto!" chant (using a slur reference for a gay sex worker) as the goalie put the ball in play.

Instead, FIFA announced an investigation, which means in a few weeks the Mexican federation may get a fine while the offending fans get a giggle.

FIFA claims it's serious about confronting racism and homophobia among fans, but its lack of action speaks loudly. Sending a bill for a few thousand dollars to organizations that handle millions hasn't been effective.

FIFA managed to throttle back hooliganism — rowdy fans traveling to matches to fight with fans of the opposing team — through direct responses, including pressuring national federations and teams to ban admission by known hooligans to stadiums and, at the national level, barring travel to foreign countries where matches and tournaments are being held.

Similar steps could go a long way toward combating the insults. So could FIFA halting — or even postponing — more matches because of fan behavior. That would be a big step, yes, but it's clear that forceful action is necessary if FIFA is to knock some of the racist and homophobic tarnish off its sport.

But then, FIFA granted this World Cup tournament to Russia, which has a horrendous record on gay rights. If it was sincere about combating anti-gay attitudes, there were plenty of other countries it could have picked.

They flee terrifying violence in Central America, and arrive in a country that barbarically rips children from parents

By STEVE LOPEZ
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Without warning, she dropped her head and began to cry.

Jessica, whose young son played nearby at a South Los Angeles health clinic, put her hands over her face to cover her tears.

When I asked what was wrong, she told me her husband had been ordered by Guatemalan gangsters to pay a protection tax or every member of his family would be killed. So they managed to get tourist visas and head north, but now they were in limbo.

They're too afraid to go back home when their visas expire. But they're frightened about what might come of them in the United States if they can't get political asylum and choose to overstay their visas, and it's easy to understand why.

For uprooted families crossing the border illegally, rattled by family separation and whatever horrors they may have experienced at home, the current Trump administration policy is to add one more crushing blow in the president's campaign to make America great again.

About 2,000 children have been separated from their parents, and there have been stories of children in cages and toddlers crying.

You risk everything to get to the promised land only to find out its just another prison.

Child abuse by feds?

"That's child abuse," Colleen Kraft, the president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, said Monday.

On the day I met Jessica at St. John's Well Child and Family Center, I also met pediatrician David Bolour, who told me many of his patients from Central America have physical problems caused by the psychological and emotional damage they've suffered.

"I had a 6-year-old who witnessed his grandfather's hands being chopped off right in front of his eyes," Bolour said.

"We're causing twice the trauma to both the parents and their children," said Hilda Cruz of the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity. "Can you imagine this? These children have gone through so much violence in their hometowns, and then they get to a place that doesn't recognize them as human beings."

Even some Republican leaders suggested Trump stop separating families. But as of Monday, the president was still barking like a bulldog.

"The United States will not be a migrant camp, and it will not be a refugee holding facility," Trump said defiantly. "Not on my watch."

A real tough guy, huh? Let's make the kids cry.

We get it already, Mr. President.

Good job on the sweeps. Keep talking about the wall. Let's stoke fear and division whenever and wherever possible.

We know who you are by now.

But this is different.

These are children, not political pawns.

And by separating them from their parents, you're separating us from our values.

Those who argue that the United States can't be expected to solve all the world's problems, or provide shelter and comfort to everyone who chooses to cross the border illegally because of corruption and violence in their own countries, have a point.

We can't do all that.

But what kind of country, richer than any other, tells destitute victims of rape, domestic abuse and gang violence that not only are they unwelcome here, but we'll punish them and their children by locking them up separately before shipping them back to the nightmare they fled?

A lack of compassion

"The threats are real, and you can see it in the physical trauma people have suffered," Cruz said. "Especially when people retell their stories, you can see it in the pain they carry. … I'm really saddened by the lack of compassion we're showing."

Four years go, Cruz and I met with a 30-year-old refugee from El Salvador who was being hosted by an aunt and assisted by the Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino while she awaited a deportation hearing. She wore an ankle monitor, had her 6-year-old son with her, and told us about paying thousands of dollars in extortion to gang members for the privilege of running a small store.

She told me and Cruz she had witnessed the slaughter of a neighboring family that refused to pay extortion, and four of her relatives had been murdered. Her aunt in Los Angeles sent her $3,500 for coyotes, who then locked the woman and her son in a warehouse in Mexico and threatened to torture them unless the aunt sent another $3,500, which she did.

"They're fleeing for their lives," Jessica Dominguez, an immigration attorney in the San Fernando Valley, told me of some of her clients.

She introduced me, on the phone, to a young Salvadoran man named Armando. He ran for his life three years ago, when he was 15, and settled in Miami.

I asked Armando why he left home.

Because gang members had recruited him and two cousins to extort business owners, he said.

"My family didn't want me to participate," he said, so he refused.

So did his two cousins, both of whom were tortured. One of them had his fingernails removed, according to Armando, and the other had a metal shard driven through his mouth and into his skull. Both were murdered. Armando headed north.

Dominguez said that for Armando and others, telling their stories won't win them legal protection here.

"Every asylum case is based on credibility," she said. "You have to get a report from the country you're coming from, and you have to have evidence to back it up. … But it's not easy to get that."

Wouldn't you do the same thing?

Dominguez told me that in the case of Jessica, the woman from the health clinic, she has an angle she might be able to work on an asylum case. Jessica's husband said he suffered burns in a bomb attack on a bus and believes he was targeted for not bowing to the extortionists. Dominguez told him to see if he can dig up a report on the crime.

Like I said, you can't open the door to everyone with a problem in another country, especially when we've got plenty of our own issues to deal with. It's not fair to those who wait years for legal passage, there's a cost borne by taxpayers, and there's an impact on wages in some industries.

But this country has no room to lecture the world on greatness, virtue or morality as long as we're the ugly, heartless barbarians who turn our backs to humanitarian crises and tear traumatized children from the arms of their parents.

Instead of making their lives more miserable when they arrive, decent people might instead ask what we would have done in their situation.

COUNTRY'S

From Page 10

us in a humanitarian cause.

But the children in question are being seized by American government employees — fellow citizens paid with our tax dollars, and acting in our name. We are complicit in the cruel policy they are carrying out (and it is a policy, not a law they are constitutionally obliged to enforce), at least until we have exhausted our efforts to demand that the White House and Michigan's elected representatives in Washington stop it.

Sens. Tina Smith and Sen. Dianne Feinstein have introduced legislation would both prevent continuing removals and provide remedies and resources for children from their parents by immigration authorities. Both their bills deserve the support of Michigan's senators and congressional delegation.

Constituents should be especially vigilant about making sure that Republican lawmakers who express their solidarity by appearing with Vice President Mike Pence during his Michigan campaign swing hold the Trump administration accountable for its excesses.

The spectacle of the world's most prosperous democracy ripping children from their parents arms has appalled compassionate people of every faith, nationality and political stripe. It is time to let them know that Michiganders are no less horrified than they are by what our country's immigration authorities are doing to children in our name.

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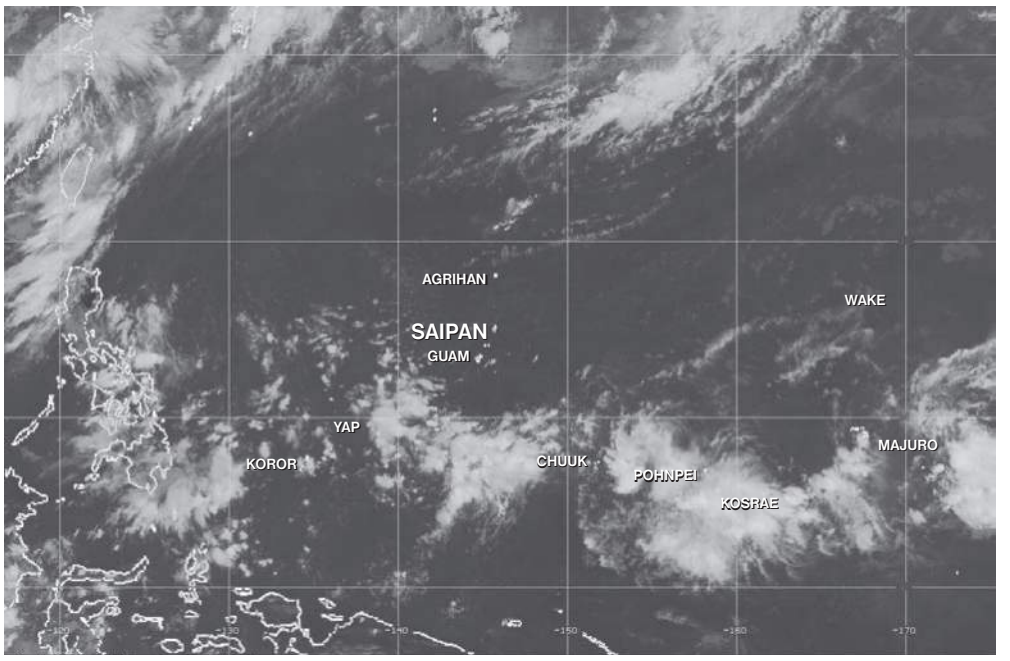
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:08 AM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Models show little change in our weather for the next 5-7 days, with slowly diminishing trade winds, partly cloudy skies and isolated showers into early next week. Dry air aloft should keep showers at a minimum through at least Monday. Meanwhile, combined seas should remain around 4 feet, with just enough east swell to keep the rip risk moderate along east facing shores.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Sunny	55° / 45°
Beijing	Showers	93° / 70°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Showers	87° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	68° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	82° / 64°
Manila	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	59° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°
New York	Partly Cloudy	84° / 65°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	81° / 68°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	70° / 48°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	79° / 66°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	86° / 66°
Salem	Thunderstorm	93° / 74°
San Francisco	Sunny	69° / 56°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	88° / 64°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	82° / 68°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	86° / 68°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:16 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.98
8:51 AM	LOW TIDE	0.71
2:04 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.40
8:16 PM	LOW TIDE	0.44

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:36 AM	12:56 PM
Friday	-	1:18 AM	1:48 PM
Saturday	-	1:59 AM	2:39 PM
Sunday	-	2:40 AM	3:30 PM
Monday	-	3:22 AM	4:20 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

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SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

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Business

Trump raises risk of economically harmful trade war with China

WASHINGTON (AP)— The United States and China edged closer Tuesday to triggering the riskiest trade war in decades, a fight that could weaken the world's two largest economies, unsettle relations between Beijing and Washington and crimp global growth.

The collateral damage could be widespread.

If the tariffs the two countries have threatened to slap on each other's exports take effect, their consumers would have to pay higher retail prices. Companies would pay more for imported parts and would have to decide whether to absorb those higher costs— or pass them on to their customers.

American farmers could be evicted from a lucrative market for their goods. U.S. companies, from Caterpillar to Qualcomm, would likely face obstruction from regulators in China, a market they rely on for an outsize share of sales.

The standoff, mostly over China's sharp-elbowed drive to supplant U.S. technological dominance, threatens to tip "the U.S. and China into a downward spiral like the world hasn't seen since the trade war that plunged us deeper in in the Great Depression and into the Second World War," warned Matt Gold, professor of international trade law at the Fordham Law School and a former U.S. trade official.

World financial markets buckled after President Donald Trump ratcheted up the tensions by proposing a fresh batch of tariffs on Chinese products. With concerns growing on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average closed down nearly 300 points— more than 1 percent— on its sixth straight losing day. Stocks tumbled nearly 3 percent in Hong Kong, 2 percent in Tokyo and 4 percent in Shanghai.

Trump previously ordered 25 percent tariffs on $50 billion in Chinese goods in retaliation for Beijing's forced transfer of U.S. technology and for intellectual property theft. Those tariffs, set to start taking effect July 6, were matched by China's threat to penalize U.S. exports.

Beijing's response drew the president's ire. On Monday night, Trump told his U.S. trade representative, Robert Lighthizer, to target an additional $200 billion in Chinese goods for 10 percent tariffs. These penalties would take effect, the White House said, "if China refuses to change its practices" and proceeds with its plans for retaliatory tariffs.

The tit-for-tat penalties could escalate further yet: Trump threatened tariffs on $200 billion more in Chinese products if Beijing lashes back again. Combined, the potential tariffs on Beijing could cover $450 billion— a sum equal to 89 percent of Chinese goods imported to the United States last year.

"He's upping the ante," Wendy Cutler, a former U.S. trade negotiator who is now at the Asia Society Policy Institute, said of Trump. "He's willing to totally close our market to their exports... There are going to be serious consequences."

The tariffs would start to slow U.S. growth, economists warn. Oxford Economics estimates that if Trump imposed the $200 billion in tariffs and China responded in kind, U.S. growth could slow by 0.3 percentage point next year.

Google, Facebook, others speak out against child separation

Some business leaders are condemning the Trump administration's decision to separate children from parents who are accused of crossing the border illegally, but it's unclear what impact—if any— they will have.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said he was donating money to groups that help immigrant families get legal advice and translation services at the border. He asked others to do the same. Around 2,300 minors have been separated from their parents at the border between May 5 and June 9, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

"We need to stop this policy right now," Zuckerberg wrote in a Facebook post.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai tweeted that the stories and images about family separation were "gut-wrenching." In an interview with The Irish Times, Apple CEO Tim Cook said the policy "is inhumane. It needs to stop." And in a joint statement, the three founders of Airbnb said separating kids from their families is "heartless, cruel, immoral and counter to the American values of belonging."

Conservative-leaning business lobbying groups also weighed in. The Business Roundtable, which represents the CEOs of Walmart, General Motors, Boeing, JPMorgan Chase, Mastercard and others, urged immediate end to the policy. So did the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which represents more than 3 million small and large businesses.

"Surely a nation as big, generous and compassionate as the United States can find a way to prevent separating children from their parents at the border. If we can't agree on that, then we can't agree on anything," U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas Donohue said in a statement.

The flurry of corporate statements might soothe CEO consciences and rally their employees and customers, but they're unlikely to lead to policy changes, said Erik Gordon, an assistant professor at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business.

When business leaders weigh in on issues in which they have expertise—like trade, taxes or regulations—it does influence policy, he said. But on issues that involve them less directly, like immigration or gun control, they tend to have less impact.

"They have a bigger voice, but I'm not sure they have a bigger influence," Gordon said.

In some cases, the rallying appeared to make a difference. Former Facebook employees started a fundraising page over the weekend that began with a goal of $1,500 —the minimum bond to get a parent out of detention— to send to a nonprofit group in Texas. By Tuesday afternoon, the page had raised more than $5.9 million on its way to a new goal of $8 million.

Some companies spoke up because they feared being connected to the Trump administration's "zero tolerance" policy. Microsoft, which has a cloud computing contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, insisted on Tuesday that it's not working with the government on any projects related to separating children from their parents.

But some of its own employees protested the deal. The New York Times reported Tuesday that more than 100 Microsoft employees have sent a letter to CEO Satya Nadella on an internal message board urging him to "take an ethical stand" and stop working with ICE.

Nation

Separations at border alarm child-welfare experts

The sights and sounds are wrenching: A boy's cries of "Papa! Papa!" for the father he had been separated from. Youngsters placed in chain-link cages in an old Texas warehouse. Parents begging to know what will happen to their children.

Child welfare has always been a challenging profession; state and local agencies across America make difficult decisions every day to separate children from their parents. But those agencies have ways of minimizing the trauma that aren't being employed by the Trump administration in separating immigrant families at the Mexican border.

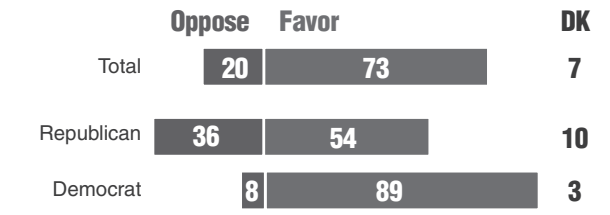
"There are no principles of good child welfare that are being used in this process," said Angelo McClain, CEO of the National Association of Social Workers.

Among other things, child welfare agencies often try to arrange visits between parents and children and keep communication open.

McClain and many of his professional colleagues nationwide are alarmed by what is happening at the border, citing research demonstrating that family separation can cause long-term trauma for children, including depression, anxiety, feelings of insecurity and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Most favor legal status for children

The percent who ___ granting permanent legal status to immigrants who came to the U.S. illegally when they were children



Source: Pew Research Center
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Their worries center on the more 2,300 children who have been separated from their parents this spring as part of a Trump administration effort to deter illegal border crossings. Federal officials have not specified how long the youngsters will be held.

McClain knows child welfare intimately. He spent five years in a foster-care group home in Texas as a teen, then went on to become a child abuse investigator in that state.

"After we removed children from their homes, I would visit them every day in their foster home," he said. "I was the link back to their parents—I'd get messages back and forth. We had ways to mitigate the trauma."

As soon as feasible, parent-child visits were arranged. And parents could offer advice to the children's caregiver—their food preferences and bedtime rituals, for example.

The wave of family separations at the border, undertaken as part of the Trump administration's "zero tolerance" policy toward those caught illegally trying to enter the country, is not facilitating any continued parent-child communication.

The best option is to keep a fragile family together in the first place, said Mike Arsham, a senior official at New York City's child-welfare agency.

If that's not possible—for example, when a single parent is jailed—the agency tries to find relatives who could care for the children until they are reunited with their parents.

Trump administration pulls US out of UN human rights council

WASHINGTON (AP)— The United States announced Tuesday it was leaving the United Nations' Human Rights Council, with Ambassador Nikki Haley calling it "an organization that is not worthy of its name." It was the latest withdrawal by the Trump administration from an international institution.

Haley, Trump's envoy to the U.N., said the U.S. had given the human rights body "opportunity after opportunity" to make changes. She lambasted the council for "its chronic bias against Israel" and lamented the fact that its membership includes accused human rights abusers such as China, Cuba, Venezuela and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"We take this step because our commitment does not allow us to remain a part of a hypocritical and self-serving organization that makes a mockery of human rights," Haley said.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, appearing alongside Haley at the State Department, said there was no doubt that the council once had a "noble vision."

But today we need to be honest," Pompeo said. "The Human Rights Council is a poor defender of human rights."

The announcement came just a day after the U.N. human rights chief, Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein, denounced the Trump administration for separating migrant children from their parents. But Haley cited longstanding U.S. complaints that the 47-member council is biased against Israel. She had been threatening the pullout since last year unless the council made changes advocated by the U.S.

"Regrettably, it is now clear that our call for reform was not heeded," Haley said.

Still, she suggested the decision need not be permanent, adding that if the council did adopt reforms, "we would be happy to rejoin it." She said the withdrawal notwithstanding, the U.S. would continue to defend human rights at the United Nations.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office called the U.S. decision "courageous," calling it "an unequivocal statement that enough is enough."

The move extends a broader Trump administration pattern of stepping back from international agreements and forums under the president's "America First" policy. Although numerous officials have said repeatedly that "America First does not mean America Alone," the administration has retreated from multiple multilateral accords and consensuses since it took office.

Since January 2017, it has announced its withdrawal from the Paris climate accord, left the U.N. educational and cultural organization and pulled out of the Iran nuclear deal. Other contentious moves have included slapping tariffs on steel and aluminum against key trading partners, recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and moving the U.S. Embassy there from Tel Aviv.

Asia

Indonesia raises number of ferry sinking missing to 166

TIGARAS PORT, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesian officials said that 166 people are missing from a ferry sinking early this week at a popular lake on Sumatra, a much higher number than previously believed, as distraught and angry relatives pleaded Wednesday for a bigger search effort.

AP

Indonesian search and rescue team carry a victim body of a ferry sinking at Tigaras port in Toba Lake, North Sumatra, Wednesday, June, 20, 2018.

The boat, overcrowded with passengers and motorbikes, didn't have a manifest and disaster officials have several times raised the number of people it was carrying as family members who rushed to Lake Toba in northern Sumatra provided information.

On Wednesday, the local military command released a list of the names of 166 missing people. A day earlier, disaster officials had said 94 people were missing though expected the number to rise.

Only 18 people were rescued and one death confirmed in the immediate response to the sinking on Monday evening. Since then, the search and rescue effort involving 350 personnel and at least half a dozen boats has turned up items of clothing, bags and traces of oil from the boat.

An Associated Press reporter on Wednesday saw one body being transferred to an ambulance onshore. A rescuer, who didn't give his name, said the dead woman was found about 7 kilometers (4 miles) from where the boat sank.

Suwarni, whose 20-year-old son and his girlfriend were on the ferry, slammed the search and rescue operation as slow and insufficient.

"Millions of questions keep me from sleeping," she said between desperate sobs. "What kind of government is this which can't protect their own people from unnecessary accidents? And after the accident they're not able to find the victims."

"I beg help to everyone to quickly find my son and his girlfriend, even if their remains, please find my son, return him to me," Suwarni, who uses only one name, said.

Cellphone video released earlier in the week by the National Disaster Mitigation Agency showed the crew of another ferry attempting to rescue people struggling in the waters shortly after the sinking but being hampered by bad weather and rough waters.

The 1,145-square-kilometer (440-square-mile) Lake Toba, formed out of an ancient super volcano, is a popular sightseeing destination on the island of Sumatra.

The disaster has cast a tragic pall over holidays marking the end of Ramadan when tens of millions of Indonesians return to their hometowns.

Ferry tragedies are common in Indonesia, an archipelago of more than 17,000 islands, with weak enforcement of safety regulations often to blame.

China hopes for implementation of NKorea-US summit outcome

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese President Xi Jinping told North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Tuesday he hopes Pyongyang and Washington can fully implement the outcome of last week's nuclear summit at which Kim pledged to work toward denuclearization in exchange for U.S. security guarantees.

State broadcaster CCTV said Xi told Kim that through the "concerted efforts of the relevant countries" negotiations regarding issues on the Korean Peninsula are back on track and the overall situation is moving in the direction of peace and stability.

The summit between Kim and U.S. President Donald Trump in Singapore marked an "important step toward the political solution of the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue," Xi was quoted as saying in the meeting at the Great Hall of the People in central Beijing.

China hopes North Korea and the U.S. can "implement well the outcomes achieved at the summit," Xi said. China would "as always play a constructive role" in that process, he said.

Along with a statement signed by Kim and Trump offering vague commitments to denuclearization and security, Trump also agreed to suspend military exercises with South Korea in what was seen as a major win for North Korea and its chief allies, China and Russia.

Kim's two-day visit to China, which began Tuesday, had not been announced in advance but was expected as part of the Communist neighbors' tradition to report to each other on major developments.

The visit is Kim's third to China since March, highlighting China's crucial role in efforts by the U.S. and others to get North Korea to abandon its nuclear program. The U.S. has long looked to China to use its influence with North Korea to bring it to negotiations, but the visit comes as ties between Beijing and Washington are being tested by a major trade dispute.

CCTV showed Kim and his wife, Ri Sol Ju, being welcomed by Xi with full military honors. Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, later hosted Kim and Ri at a banquet, CCTV reported.

China's official Xinhua News Agency announced the North Korean leader's visit shortly after he apparently landed Tuesday morning, dispensing with the secrecy shrouding previous trips to China by Kim and his father and predecessor, Kim Jong Il.

On the younger Kim's first visit to China as leader, he took an armored train as his father had. His first two trips were not announced until after he had safely returned to North Korea.

Xi "is exerting a lot of influence from behind the scenes," said Bonnie Glaser, senior adviser for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"I expect they will talk about the path going forward and where priorities should lie," Glaser said.

World

UN chief: Highest number of conflicts globally in 30 years

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)— The number of countries involved in "violent conflicts" is the highest in 30 years, while the number of people killed in conflicts has risen tenfold since 2005, the U.N. secretary-general said Tuesday.

Antonio Guterres added that the number of "violent situations" classifiable as wars, based on the number of casualties, has tripled since 2007.

He also told reporters in Oslo, Norway, that "low-intensity conflicts" rose by 60 percent since 2007. Guterres gave no specific figures.

"Prevention is more necessary than ever," Guterres said, adding "mediation becomes an absolutely fundamental instrument in our action."

Guterres, who was attending a meeting on peacemaking, said that on top of regional conflicts, global terrorism was a new type of struggle that "can strike anywhere at any time."

The annual Oslo Forum panel discussion on peacemaking also was attended by leaders from Somalia, Algeria, Jordan, Oman and Tanzania. The White House envoy for the war against the Islamic State also attended.

The U.N. refugee agency said nearly 69 million people fleeing war, violence and persecution were forcibly displaced last year, a record number.

In its annual Global Trends Report published Tuesday, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said the continued crises in places like South Sudan and Congo, as well as the exodus of Muslim Rohingya from Myanmar that started last year, raised the overall figure of forced displacements in 2017 to 68.5 million.

Later Tuesday, Guterres met with Erna Solberg, prime minister of Norway. The country is lobbying for a seat on the U.N. Security Council for the period 2021-2022.

Among the topics they discussed was the state of the oceans, which Guterres described as "a mess."

At a news conference with Solberg, Guterres said 80 million tons of plastic were being dumped into the oceans every year.

He said the U.N. would come up with a "battle plan" in September for the oceans, saying there is a "collective responsibility" to do something.

The oceans face threats from plastic garbage, illegal and excessive fishing, rising sea levels that could wipe out small islands, and increasing acidity of ocean water, which is killing marine life.

Saudi-led coalition displays Yemeni arms allegedly from Iran

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Officials in a Saudi-led coalition battling Shiite rebels for control of a crucial port in Yemen on Tuesday displayed weapons captured on the battlefield that they say show Iran is arming the insurgents.

Iran long has denied arming the rebels, known as Houthis, despite reports by the United Nations, Western countries and outside groups linking it to the rebels' arsenal.

Weapons shown to reporters in Abu Dhabi and later at an Emirati military base on a government-sponsored tour included drones, a sniper rifle, roadside bombs disguised as rocks and even a "drone boat," which had been filled with explosives that failed to detonate.

The officials showed Iranian-labeled components inside of equipment they said was used to produce and load fuel for the rockets the rebels have fired across the border at Saudi Arabia. They also displayed images allegedly showing Iranian officials building components for the "drone boat." The officials said such weapons threaten both coalition forces and civilians.

"Unsurprisingly, there are advanced military components in the Houthi militia's hands," Talal al-Teneiji, an Emirati Foreign Affairs Ministry official, told The Associated Press. "We took time to inspect and disassemble these to figure out the source ... and we can say that these elements are military-grade materials imported from Iran to the Houthi militias."

Iran's mission to the United Nations later said it had no comment on the specifics of the Saudi-led coalition's allegations "other than reiterating that Iran has not sent and does not send armaments to Yemen."

The rare show-and-tell by the Saudi-led coalition comes as the United Arab Emirates leads Yemeni forces in an offensive seeking to capture the Red Sea port city of Hodeida.

Their campaign has been criticized by aid groups, which fear a protracted fight could force a shutdown of the port and potentially tip millions into starvation. Some 70 percent of Yemen's food enters via the port, as well as the bulk of humanitarian aid and fuel supplies. Around two-thirds of the country's population of 27 million relies on aid and 8.4 million are already at risk of starving.

The Houthi-controlled port has remained open, as the main battle Tuesday was around the city's airport, to the south.

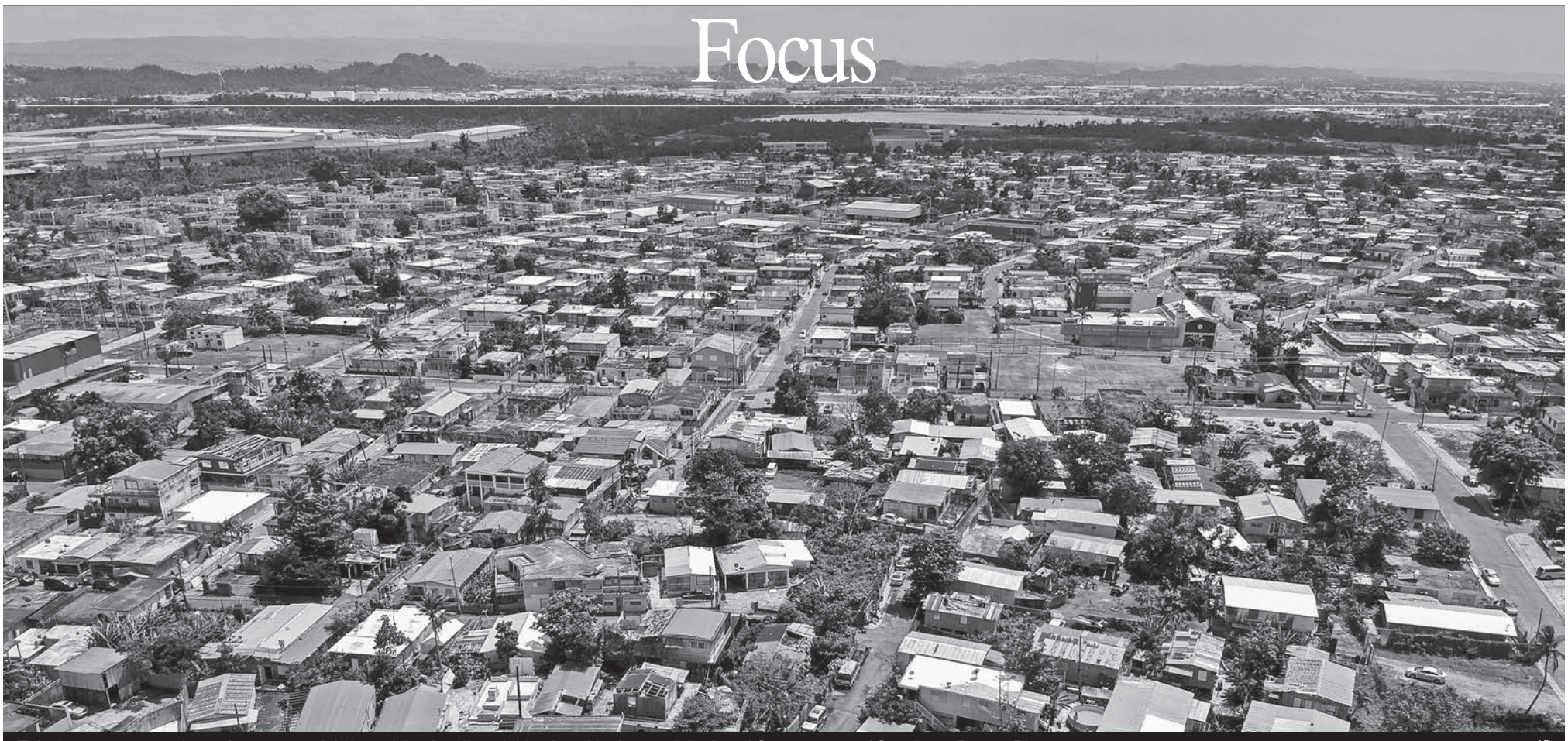
Some of the weapons shown have previously been described by U.N. weapons experts and an independent group called Conflict Armament Research, which gained access to the materiel through the UAE's elite Presidential Guard. Among them were roadside bombs disguised as rocks that the research group has said bear similarities to others used by Hezbollah in southern Lebanon and by other Iran-backed fighters in Iraq and Bahrain, suggesting at the least an Iranian influence in their manufacture.

Already, the Saudi-led coalition has disarmed between 20,000 to 30,000 land mines and bombs, most laid indiscriminately by the Houthis, al-Teneiji said.

Other weapons on display Tuesday included a .50-caliber sniper rifle and mines. Officials also displayed a series of drones they said showed a growing sophistication by the insurgents, starting first with plastic foam models that could be built by hobby kit to one captured in April that closely resembled an Iranian-made drone.

Those advanced drones have been flown into the radar arrays of Saudi Arabia's Patriot missile batteries, according to Conflict Armament Research, disabling them and allowing the Houthis to fire ballistic missiles into the kingdom unchallenged. Iran has been accused by the U.S. and the U.N. of supplying ballistic missile technology to the Houthis, something Tehran denies.

Focus



This June 18, 2018 photo shows an aerial view of the Amelia neighborhood in the municipality of Catano, east of San Juan, Puerto Rico. AP

Many in Puerto Rico still under tarps as storm threat looms

By BEN FOX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hurricane Maria ripped away part of the steel roof from Carmen Lidia Torres Mercado's home in the Puerto Rican capital. Nine months later, she is still relying on a blue plastic tarp to protect her home, even with a new storm season already two weeks old.

Torres points out where rain seeps into the bedroom of her small house in a San Juan neighborhood known as Barriada Figueroa, where the narrow streets surged with floodwaters during the Sept. 20 storm. But the 60-year-old retiree says she has no money to fix it on her own and doesn't have the documents proving home ownership that she needs to qualify for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"In truth, this isn't a suitable place to live," Torres said in an interview at her home on a recent morning.

There are thousands of people in similar circumstances across Puerto Rico nearly nine months since the most devastating storm to strike the island in decades. Blue tarps or sturdier plastic sheets installed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are still widely visible around the island, though FEMA and local government agencies say they can't say for certain how many roofs still need to be replaced.

Many people lack insurance or other resources to rebuild on their own. While the U.S. and Puerto Rican government have helped with grants and loans, they haven't been enough on an island where nearly half the people live in poverty.

Some are renters like Gabriel Figueroa, a self-employed handyman in San Juan, who said the owner of the house moved to the U.S. and hasn't bothered to replace the roof panels that were blown away in the storm. He's saving up the $2,000 he needs to do it himself, but isn't there yet.

"I don't want to wait much longer," he said. "I have kids and I have to protect them."

In this June 13, 2018 photo, a residence in the Figueroa neighborhood stands destroyed nine months after Hurricane Maria, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. AP

There has been significant progress in recovery in general. Power, water and cellphone service have been restored to more than 95 percent of Puerto Ricans. Businesses are operating and the roads are no longer free-for-alls now that many traffic lights are working again. There are signs of economic recovery, with the government reporting last week that unemployment for May was 9.6 percent, the lowest level in almost 30 years.

But housing remains a challenge. Mayor Rafael Surillo of Yabucoa, the small southeastern town near where Maria made landfall, said at least 800 homes there still have temporary roofs in need of replacement. The San Juan's mayor's office says there are at least 2,000 in the capital, several thousand more in the metropolitan area.

So many temporary roofs remain, Surillo said, because people either can't qualify for loans or grants—often because they don't have the titles to their property or are missing documents—or the amount of assistance they can get isn't enough to cover the cost of repairs. Local officials have been working with people to secure new property title documents, but it has been difficult. "The reconstruction has been extremely slow, dangerously slow," Surillo said.

FEMA, which was accepting initial applications for assistance through Monday, has had a visible presence on the island, distributing 126,000 blue tarps and coordinating the installation of sturdier, but still temporary, blue plastic sheets by the Corps of Engineers on nearly 60,000 homes. The agency said it has approved 457,000 applications for individual assistance, totaling $1.3 billion.

The federal agency, however, is not set up as a replacement for homeowner's insurance, which a significant portion of Puerto Rico lacks. Spokeswoman Jo Ann Diaz said FEMA can't make people whole despite expectations to the contrary. "We help you until you are on the road to recovery," she said.

That reality has slowly sunk in across Puerto Rico. Doris Colon and Felix Marquez, an elderly retired couple in Catano, west of San Juan, said they received $500 from FEMA but needed much more after Maria tore off part of their roof, leaving the house exposed to days of punishing rain that damaged appliances, furniture and the floors of their small home.

"If only FEMA would have given something more, I could have called somebody to help me," the 75-year-old Colon said, noting that the family got additional help from the Puerto Rican government and a non-governmental organization that normally works in Africa.

Others in their neighborhood had similar experiences. Dilma Gonzalez, 47, said she received $132 from FEMA, for damage to her roof and kitchen that a contractor said would cost at least $6,000 to repair. She had no insurance and hasn't worked since the storm.

"I'm worried because it's already storm season and one little wind will take it all away," she said, gesturing at her house as she chatted with neighbors on the street.

Angel Santos Rivera was among the tens of thousands of FEMA applicants who got no assistance at all. The 75-year-old said he could neither read nor write, but he passed on a letter from the agency stating that he was ineligible for assistance because he could not provide sufficient proof that he owns the home where he has lived for 40 years. Upstairs, he brought out a battered file folder with the property title, missing all the pages but the one with his notarized signature. He shrugged as he talked in the shade of his balcony, the light tinged blue from the plastic sheet that protects him from the sun and rain.

"It's in God's hands," Rivera said. "There's nothing you can do."

Environment

California's new war on plastic may be the last straw

By ROSANNA XIA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It took years of activist campaigns to turn the plastic bag into a villain, and hard-fought legislation to reduce its presence in oceans and waterways. Now, environmentalists and lawmakers are deploying similar tactics against a new generation of plastic pollutants.

There are drinking straws, which as a viral video shows can get stuck in a sea turtle's nose. The hundreds of thousands of bottle caps that wind up on beaches. And the microfibers that wash off polyester clothes, making their way into the ocean, the stomachs of marine life and ultimately our seafood.

Each is the subject of statewide legislation under debate in Sacramento, as California again considers new environmental law that's at once pioneering and controversial.

Their action comes as plastic takes center stage as the environmental concern du jour.

There could be more plastic by weight than fish in the world's oceans by 2050, according to a widely cited World Economic Forum report. A recent University of California, Davis study sampled seafood sold at local markets in Half Moon Bay and found that one-quarter of fish and one-third of shellfish contained plastic debris.

A survey comparing 150 tap-water samples from five continents found synthetic microfibers in almost every sample — 94 percent in the United States. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is at 1.8 trillion pieces of trash, most of it microplastic, and counting.

The European Commission on Monday proposed new across-the-board rules, including a ban on single-use plastic products "where alternatives are readily available and affordable."

The call to break the world's disposable-plastic habit is resonating, especially in California. More than half a dozen bills aimed at plastic pollution were introduced in Sacramento this year alone—by both coastal legislators and more moderate inland colleagues who see the potential damage not just in oceans but also rivers, lakes and the state's water supply. No one, they said, wants to drink a glass of water and wonder if they're also downing a glass of plastic.

As the White House pulls back on environmental issues, California leaders say it's on them to push forward. The state, after all, was the first in the nation to ban single-use plastic bags, setting the stage for others to follow. When a state law barred exfoliating beauty products with plastic microbeads, the industry impact was so large the ban was adopted at the national level in President Barack Obama's final year.

"What we do has not just national, but international implications. We're the fifth-largest economy in the world," said Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon, a Democrat who introduced a bill this year that bars sit-down restaurants from providing plastic straws unless a customer requests one. "You better believe that if we do something and it works here, everyone's going to adopt it."

Calderon has also teamed up with Democratic Assemblyman Mark Stone, a longtime environmental leader, on a law that would prohibit retailers from selling single-use plastic bottles with caps that do not remain tethered to the container after opening.

A bill by Democratic Assemblyman Richard Hershel Bloom, who had authored the microbeads bill and is a co-author on the straws and caps bills, requires all new clothing made with more than 50 percent synthetic material have a label that warns of microfiber shedding during washing.

All three have passed committee and are expected to go to the Assembly floor this week.

These bills have sparked intense pushback by conservatives and a coalition of manufacturers and industry groups. GOP Assemblyman Travis Allen, not shy to use Trumpian tactics in his campaign to be California's next governor, took to Twitter to lambaste the straw proposal.

"California Democrat Leader Ian Calderon wants to ban PLASTIC STRAWS. Is there any part of your life that Democrats don't want to control? As Governor, this is exactly the type of legislation that I will VETO."

The concerns from the Plastics Industry Association, California Chamber of Commerce, International Bottled Water Association and dozens of others have been more measured. Most have backed off on the straws bill, acknowledging that giving customers the option to request one was a reasonable compromise.

Their opposition questions the limited existing research on microfiber pollution and the approach of the bottle cap bill, saying these changes "would negatively impact tens of thousands of manufacturers and retailers that do business with California."

"We understand the desire to reduce plastic waste, but feel that this will not solve the problem," they said in a joint statement on the connect-the-cap bill. "A more effective approach would be to educate consumers about recycling lids with the bottles."

And while the microfiber issue is important, another coalition said, a label doesn't solve the problem, which needs more study, and would just cause confusion for consumers and create potential liability for producers.

Nate Herman, senior vice president of supply chain for the American Apparel & Footwear Association, said an additional label would also "add extensive cost" to product development and ultimately would force companies to "add labeling to all impacted products even if being sold in other states."

Supporters say this year's suite of bills present a range of actions that could be taken to address plastic pollution: Encouraging change in consumer habits, requesting a redesign by manufacturers and raising public awareness—especially with microfiber.

Synthetic fabrics such as polyester, nylon, acrylic and spandex are everywhere, and so are their sheddings. A Patagonia study found that a microfleece jacket could release more than 1,000 milligrams of microfibers per wash. Laundry machines today are not equipped to filter out microfibers, usually less than 5 millimeters long, and up to 40 percent of microfibers pass through wastewater treatment plants.

The study, conducted with the University of California, Santa Barbara, found that a single treatment plant discharged 3.73 billion microfibers, estimated at 179 pounds, per day.

Some environmentalists were disappointed the bills — AB 1884, AB 2779 and AB 2379 — didn't go further. Others say any step toward a fundamental consumer or manufacturing change helps.

This is Stone's second year trying to get bottle manufacturers to redesign lids. In last-minute efforts to work with opposition before the bill went before Assembly, he scaled back the requirement to just plastic water bottles, not all beverage bottles. Smaller companies that sell bottled beverages will also be exempt.

"Californians are becoming more interested in being responsible toward the impacts that plastics have on our environment, but trying to push through policy in Sacramento is a very different calculation," Stone said. "It took more than 125 local jurisdictions doing the plastic bag ban for the Legislature to finally say 'OK, we're going to step in.'"

The state's plastic bag ban, which set off one of the fiercest lobbying battles in 2014, took eight years and has paved much of the way for today's bills.

In 2016, plastic bag makers spent $6 million in an effort to convince voters to overturn the bag ban through two ballot measures. Californians upheld the ban, which went into effect at the end of that year.

Shoppers have adapted with little grumbling and the economic effects so far have not been dramatic, advocates say. The decline in bags found on beaches has been substantial: The number of plastic bags collected on the most recent annual Coastal Cleanup Day dropped more than 60 percent compared to 2010.

Justin Malan of Ecoconsult, which works with the Clean Seas Lobbying Coalition, says California has come a long way from the days when it was a political "pitchfork battle against just about everybody except the coastal advocates."

"This issue has become much more mainstream," Malan said. "We don't have to fight some of those earlier environmental fights."

Helping the momentum are the many cities that have already banned plastic straws: Malibu, Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach and San Luis Obispo.

Considering the magnitude of the plastic problem, however, this item-by-item, city-by-city approach isn't a long-term solution, Heal the Bay President Shelley Luce said.

"It's still cheaper for the manufacturer and the consumer to use single-use disposable plastic everything than it is to use a bamboo replacement or metal replacement or something that is more easily reused or recycled," Luce said. "We have to think about incentivizing new designs and helping manufacturers move toward new materials."

Sara Aminzadeh, a state coastal commissioner and executive director of California Coastkeeper Alliance, agrees that the more complete solution is part cultural, part market-driven.

"Companies will need to take responsibility for the amount of plastic that they're producing," she said, "and we need to proactively acknowledge that and include them as part of the solution."

In Malibu, where restaurants and coffee shops have been testing paper and bamboo straws before the ban begins this summer, owners said the new rules might be a little more costly but worth it in the long run.

Colette Richardson, manager of Le Cafe de la Plage by Point Dume, said she's also switching to wooden spoons to serve the cafe's handcrafted ice cream.

Her last 10 boxes of plastic straws will be donated to a local artist, who's collecting from businesses around town to create a public sculpture.

Sitting outside, Jimmy Summerall considered what it would be like using a paper straw for the smoothie and iced coffee he had just purchased from SunLife Organics. Wouldn't it get soggy?

He's good about recycling but admits straws are not the first item he thinks of when it comes to being environmentally friendly. Summerall is not one to ask for straws, he said, and only finds himself using them when a shop sticks one in his beverage.

"I'll definitely be thinking about straws more," he said. "You really can't unsee it."

Trash and storm debris are litter the shoreline of the Santa Ana River inlet in Newport Beach after a storm in December 2014.

TNS

Life & Style

Lawyer: Police think slaying of XXXTentacion was random

DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla. (AP)—The lawyer for slain rapper XXXTentacion said Tuesday that detectives believe he was fatally shot in a random robbery while likely planning to buy a motorcycle at an upscale shop near a residential neighborhood in South Florida.

Attorney David Bogenschutz said investigators also told him the 20-year-old rapper, who pronounced his stage name "Ex Ex Ex ten-ta-see-YAWN," had visited a bank shortly before the shooting and possibly withdrew cash for the purchase.

No arrests have been made in Monday's shooting at Riva Motorsports in Deerfield Beach.

XXXTentacion, whose real name was Jahseh Dwayne Onfroy, was exiting the shop's parking lot in his luxury BMW electric car when he was shot. The Broward Sheriff's Office says deputies are searching for two suspects who fled in a dark SUV.

On Tuesday morning, workers continued building a 6-foot (2-meter) wall around the property of the newly built home where XXXTentacion lived in Parkland, the same suburb of Fort Lauderdale where a gunman fatally shot 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in February.

Relatives and friends were in the house's yard but declined to comment.

Candles, a teddy bear and a large, signed sympathy card lined the front porch of the 5,957-square-foot (553-square-meter) home, which was purchased late last year for $1.4 million. Property records list the owners as Cleopatra Bernard, the singer's mother. Her name was tattooed across his chest.

Riva Motorsports is an upscale seller of motorcycles, boats, all-terrain vehicles and scooters off a main highway, next to railroad tracks and a neighborhood of tract homes.

On Tuesday afternoon a steady stream of fans had placed candles, flowers and teddy bears on the sidewalk near where he was shot, and decorated 100 yards (91 meters) of sidewalk with chalk art including messages of sympathy and loss such as "Feel for you XXX" and "4evr Young."

Myles O'Hara, 17, and Aaron Gavin, 20, sat on the curb, solemnly staring at the ground, mostly ignoring the people who moved past. They said they admired XXXTentacion because he was a local kid who rose from rough circumstances and was making a positive contribution.

"He had some legal allegations before, but the last year he had only been a positive influence on people's lives, making hit Billboard songs," O'Hara said. "He has been a kind person. You could look at his face and smile and he was just a normal kid like us ... His style is almost hard to explain. He had an angry tone. He meant everything he said, even the most simplistic words. It just came off his tongue like nothing. He was speaking his mind."

Gavin said unlike other rappers whose songs emphasize buying expensive merchandise, he said XXXTentacion rapped about his emotions.

"X talked about how he felt instead of materialistic things like owning this car, this car, this house, this house," Gavin said.

AP

A mourner of XXXTentacion prepares to leave a stuffed bear at a memorial, Tuesday, June 19, 2018, outside Riva Motorsports in Deerfield Beach, Fla., where the troubled rapper was killed the day before.

Brandon Lang, a 29-year-old magazine owner, said XXXTentacion may have had an angry persona in his performance, but in reality he "did good things," pointing out that he had come home to perform in an upcoming charity show.

"He had all these mistakes that could have wound up defining him but he didn't let that happen," Lang said. "That is why he is connecting to all these kids because these kids are going through a really sad time, a sad world. He taught them how to cope."

The entertainer, who sported dreadlocks and facial tattoos, was a rising star. He notched a No. 1 album in March with his sophomore effort "?" and had a top 10 hit with "Sad!" but was facing trial on charges that he beat up his pregnant girlfriend.

His brief career was marked by controversy. In 2016, he was arrested on charges including home invasion for a 2015 incident, and less than a month later was jailed on charges that he attacked his girlfriend, who was pregnant at the time. Later, he faced more charges including witness tampering.

In an interview this month with the Miami New Times, XXXTentacion described his upbringing, which included seeing his mother infrequently and being raised by friends, family and baby sitters. His mother bought him clothes, phones and other gifts. He said he used violence so she would engage with him.

In one video on social media, he said: "If worse things come to worse, I (expletive) die a tragic death or some (expletive), and I'm not able to see out my dreams, I at least want to know that the kids perceive my message and were able to make something of themselves."

He continued later: "I appreciate and love all of you and I believe in you all; do not let your depression make you, do not let your body define your soul, let your soul define your body. Your mind is limitless ... you are worth more than you can believe."

'Yellowstone' boasts Costner, strong Native American co-star

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Yellowstone" has everything a worthwhile Western should, including breathtaking vistas, battles over land and Kevin Costner in the lead role.

There's also something rare in the contemporary Paramount Network series debuting Wednesday: prominent Native American story lines and parts, including one filled by an actor formidable enough to stand up to Costner and his ranching baron.

Gil Birmingham plays Thomas Rainwater, a tribal chief and casino owner who's ready and able to oppose those whose interests conflict with the well-being of the people he represents.

Birmingham, of Comanche ancestry on his father's side, has played his share of Native Americans and others on TV and in films including "Hell or High Water" and "Wind River," both written by Taylor Sheridan, the creator of "Yellowstone."

"Through my career, a rather long career of struggling, mostly, I've been asked, 'What would be your dream character?' and this is it," Birmingham said of his role on Paramount Network's first drama series since its rebranding from Spike TV last January.

Playing a fully realized, modern Indian character is an opportunity that doesn't come often enough and one that counts beyond entertainment, the actor said.

"Many people don't even think that we (Native Americans) still exist, that we're just historical artifacts that once upon a time existed," he said, crediting Sheridan with a "great leap forward" in the 10-part series and on the big screen.

Birmingham tips his hat as well to Costner and his 1990 Oscar-winning period drama "Dances with Wolves," which "really did open the door for people for maybe the first time ... to see the beauty and the depths of the native culture."

Costner, also an executive producer on "Yellowstone," said authenticity is his goal with any project. That's particularly important in the show's portrayal of Native Americans, he said, for whom "a terrible wrong" has occurred and not been remedied.

Sheridan got the balance "letter perfect," with the nuance and imperfection that characters of every ethnicity warrant, he said.

The series, set in Montana, was filmed there and in Utah.

Costner stars as John Dutton, a die-hard Westerner determined to keep his family's holdings intact. There are pressures from without—including land developers, oil and lumber interests and the adjacent Indian reservation and Yellowstone National Park—and from within, courtesy of his family.

Dutton's offspring include Kayce (Luke Grimes), estranged and living on the reservation with his Native American wife, Monica (Kelsey Asbille); lawyer Jamie (Wes Bentley), eager to please his dad, and heir apparent Lee (Dave Annable), who's running the family operation with Dutton.

The sole daughter, Beth (Kelly Reilly), more than keeps up her end, filling in for her late mother as family matriarch and doubling as a cutthroat business negotiator.

The role of Thomas Rainwater was Birmingham's for the taking after he proved himself to Sheridan in "Wind River" and "Hell or High Water," which earned the filmmaker an Oscar bid for best screenplay.

Birmingham couples technical proficiency with artistic expression in his work, Sheridan said, and Rainwater's character required particular deftness.

"It's the ability to be cunning without it being misconstrued as evil," said Sheridan, who recalled advising Birmingham that Rainwater needed to be seen as "an equal force to people who have a real disregard for the rule of law, and yet never lose his goodness."

The actor has a personal connection with his character's story. Rainwater grew up unaware of his ancestry because his adoptive parents withheld his background from him, while Birmingham's late father downplayed his native heritage.

New Jersey considers honoring chef Bourdain with food trail

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—New Jersey is considering honoring celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain with a food trail.

The famed cook, writer and host of the CNN series "Parts Unknown" killed himself nearly two weeks ago in a luxury hotel in France. The 61-year-old was born in New York, but grew up in the New Jersey suburb of Leonia.

Democratic New Jersey Assemblyman Paul Moriarty on Monday introduced a resolution that would require the Travel and Tourism Division to establish the "Anthony Bourdain Food Trail." Bourdain visited 10 eateries in the state in a 2015 episode of CNN's "Parts Unknown.

One of the stops was Donkey's Place in Camden, which Bourdain said rivaled nearby Philadelphia for cheesesteaks.

AP

A woman takes a photo of the make shift memorial for Anthony Bourdain outside the building that once housed Le Halles restaurant on Park Avenue, Friday, June 8, 2018, in New York.

Prosecutors decline assault charges against Scott Baio

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Prosecutors have declined to file charges against Scott Baio stemming from allegations by his former "Charles in Charge" co-star that he sexually assaulted her.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office decided Monday not to file charges, saying in an evaluation that the statute of limitations had expired.

Baio's former co-star, Nicole Eggert, filed a police report against him in February, claiming that he sexually assaulted her while she was a teenager and working with him on the 1980s sitcom. Alexander Polinsky, another child actor on the show, has alleged that Baio assaulted and mentally tortured him.

Baio has denied all the allegations and said that he and Eggert were in a consensual relationship when she was of legal age.

His attorney, Leonard Levine, didn't immediately return a request for comment Tuesday.

Another of Baio's attorneys, Jennifer McGrath, characterized the claims by Polinsky and Eggert in February as "ever changing" and evidence of "continual hunger for publicity."

McGrath pointed to a photo of a smiling Polinsky and Baio that she said was taken at Baio's birthday party seven years ago.

Brian Glicklich, a spokesman for Baio, referenced an interview Eggert had given years ago where she said working with Baio on "Charles in Charge" was fun and that she would be happy to work with him again.

Eggert pointed out on Twitter that the case against Baio wasn't dismissed because of a lack of evidence but because of the age of the case.

Natalie Portman, Jonathan Safran Foer target factory farming

NEW YORK (AP)—Natalie Portman and Jonathan Safran Foer hope they can change the world—one dinner plate at a time.

The actress and the author have teamed up to produce the documentary "Eating Animals," an indictment of the factory farm system that argues we are feeding ourselves all wrong.

The film takes viewers from a Perdue contract farmer in Fairmont, North Carolina, who is knee-deep in both debt as well as chickens suffering horrific abnormalities, to a small free-range pig farm in Thornton, Iowa, where the animals roam freely.

The filmmakers visit various farms to make the case that animals confined indoors in massive factories, fed antibiotics, genetically altered and bred for the most meat isn't inevitable.

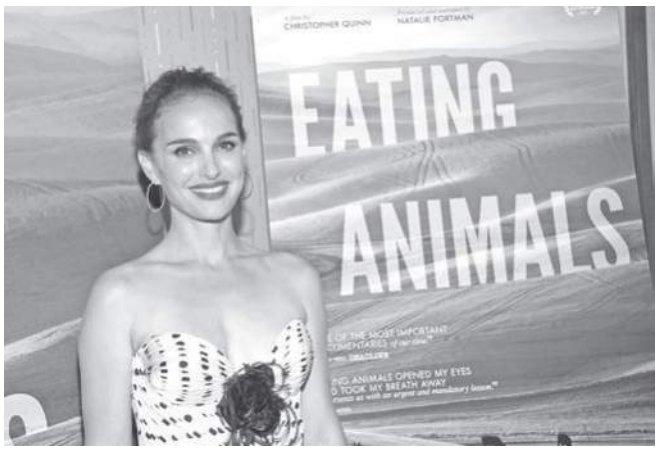
"I literally cannot conceive of the person who isn't a psychopath who would walk into a factory farm and say, 'Looks good to me,'" Foer tells The Associated Press.

"We don't all have to reach the same conclusion but we have to begin at the same starting point, which is, 'These are the facts of the world. This is how our farming system works. And we have a choice.'"

Directed by Christopher Quinn, the film is the feature-length adaptation of Foer's critically acclaimed book of the same name. But while the book is a whirlwind and free-wheeling expression of the author wrestling with the notion of meat, the film largely looks at the issues facing livestock farmers.

"I was telling a story not documenting something," said Foer, who began exploring the origin of meat as he was becoming a first-time father. "And the film is a documentary, rather than something in the storytelling tradition. It does things the book can't do and doesn't do, just as the book does things the film can't do."

Portman, who narrates using portions of Foer's text, says filmmakers never intended to just show 90 minutes of horrific footage smuggled out of inhumane factory farms or their environmental consequences.



AP

Producer Natalie Portman attends a special screening of "Eating Animals" at the IFC Center on Thursday, June 14, 2018, in New York.

Bruce Springsteen performs at benefit at bowling alley

ASBURY PARK, N.J. (AP)—Bruce Springsteen helped rock a refurbished 1960s bowling alley-turned music venue near the Asbury Park boardwalk.

Actor Hugh Jackman was in the house at the Asbury Lanes on Monday night as Springsteen jammed for about 30 minutes with Tangiers Blues Band. The four-song set consisted of Huey Smith's "Rockin' Pneumonia and the Boogie Woogie Flu," "I Just Wanna Make Love to You," by Muddy Waters, "Down the Road Apiece," by the Rolling Stones, and the Isley Brothers' "Twist and Shout."

Springsteen told the crowd "it's been a joy" watching the rebirth of Asbury.

The venue reopened in May after major renovations.

The concert benefited the Boys & Girls Club of Monmouth County.

Grammy-winning Portugal. The Man also performed.

Man learns he's not first to propose marriage to girl

DEAR ABBY: I met the love of my life eight months ago. Everything about our relationship is perfect. We both love our families, fine food, games and, most importantly, each other. We met at an antique store and now have an extensive stamp collection together.

Wanting this joy to last forever, I proposed to her. I couldn't imagine a happier life for both of us, until I discovered that she is already engaged. Her mother informed me that she had accepted a proposal from a close friend of ours months ago.

At first I was devastated, but now I understand the situation. She felt obligated to accept his proposal, yet I know she will only find true happiness by marrying me. How do I go about bringing this up to her? I'm very non-confrontational, and don't want her to feel awkward or uncomfortable. Should I tell her what I know or wait for her to come to me? Please help.

IN LOVE BUT CONFUSED

DEAR IN LOVE: Something is definitely wrong with this picture. Sometimes confrontation is healthy. Don't waste another moment waiting for the girl to level with you. Tell her what her mother told you and ask if it is true. If it is, she needs to explain. Although you may be ready to settle down and get married, she may not be emotionally mature enough to marry either one of you.

DEAR ABBY: Today, June 21—the first day of summer—is the annual ASK Day (Asking Saves Kids). Children are out of school and visiting other people's homes. This is a moment to remind parents to ask if there are guns in these homes and if they're stored safely—out of kids' reach.

Will you help us get the word out about our campaign? Prevention saves lives, and we're grateful for your consideration.

BETTINA LANYI, ASST. DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS, BRADY CAMPAIGN

DEAR BETTINA: I'm pleased to spread the word. Readers, the ASK Campaign is a collaboration between the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Its goal is to ensure kids' safety by encouraging parents to ASK if there is an unlocked gun in the homes where their children play.

For more information, I encourage you to visit askingsaveskids.org. There you will find various resources, including tips for parents and others on how to bring up the sometimes-awkward topic of safe storage. There are also brochures and flyers in English and Spanish, and suggestions about how to work with groups in your community to bring public awareness to the ASK program.

DEAR ABBY: My investment adviser got married four months ago. He and his wife have invited me to a celebration of their marriage. It is not a formal affair, but an evening BBQ at their condo rooftop. Should I bring a gift? And if so, what would be appropriate for an investment adviser?

BETTY IN FLORIDA

DEAR BETTY: A token gift would be thoughtful. Something they could use at one time or another might be a nice picture frame for their home. Be sure to include a thoughtful note with it, wishing them a lifetime of happiness together.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

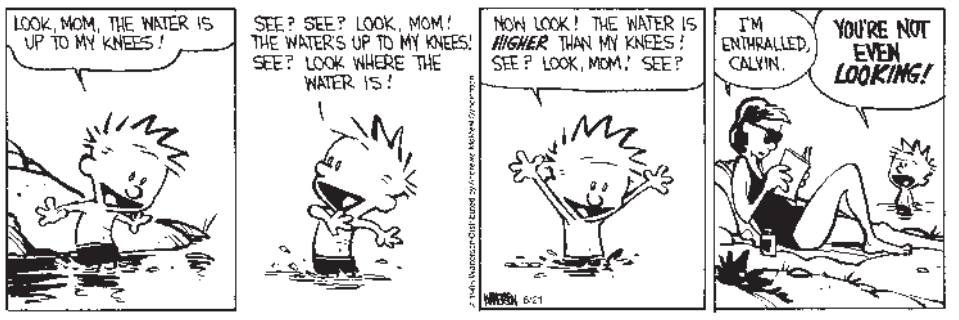
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

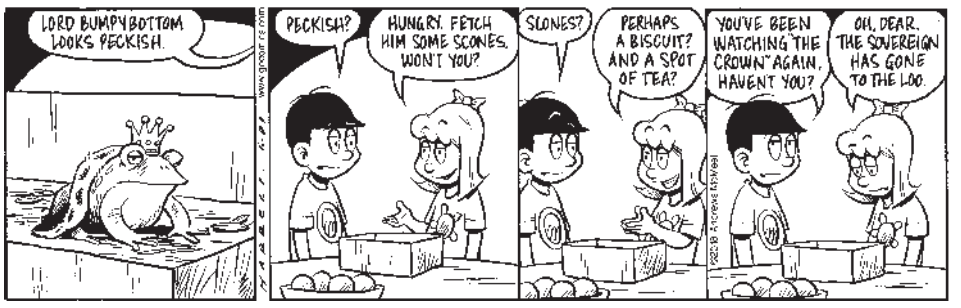

LOOK, MOM, THE WATER IS UP TO MY KNEES!
SEE? SEE? LOOK, MOM! THE WATER'S UP TO MY KNEES! SEE? LOOK WHERE THE WATER IS!
NOW LOOK! THE WATER IS HIGHER THAN MY KNEES! SEE? LOOK, MOM! SEE?
I'M ENTHRALLED, CALVIN.
YOU'RE NOT EVEN LOOKING!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


LORD BUMPYBOTTOM LOOKS PECKISH.
PECKISH?
HUNGRY. FETCH HIM SOME SCONES, WON'T YOU?
SCONES?
PERHAPS A BISCUIT? AND A SPOT OF TEA?
YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING THE CROWN AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU?
OH, DEAR. THE SOVEREIGN HAS GONE TO THE LOO.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I'D LIKE TO FILE A COMPLAINT!
HALF THIS BURGER IS RAW, WHILE THE OTHER HALF IS BURNT! THE BUN IS MOLDY, AND THE MAYO SMELLS RANCID!
WE'RE NEVER GOING TO GET $15 AN HOUR IF THIS KEEPS UP!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bloodhound feature
5 "Gee, ya think?"
8 Applaud
12 Met solo
13 Comic Philips
14 Nozzle site
15 Bistro handout
16 Sailor
17 "Casablanca" role
18 Word game with dice
20 Skater's leap
22 Rare
26 Sports bar fixture
29 Carnival city
30 "Ulalume" writer
31 Clarinet insert
32 Eastern "way"
33 Top-of-the-line
34 Mound stat
35 Dadaist artist
36 Colorado ski resort
37 "Nice and slow"
40 Make well
41 Pueblo structures
45 Throat clearer
47 Texter's chuckle
49 Russian river
50 Only
51 Newt
52 Actress Campbell
53 Pottery oven
54 "Rah!"
55 Sketched

DOWN

1 Doorframe piece
2 Twistable cookie
3 Plane part
4 Chuckled
5 Hinder
6 Hollywood's Thurman
7 Hamlet's friend
8 Main
9 Candy on a stick
10 Ninny
11 Pod dweller
19 Long. crosser
21 Tic-tac-toe loser
23 Cover with cloth
24 Zilch
25 TV chef Paula
26 Nest setting
27 Aloe —
28 Beach collectible
32 Streetcar
33 Amaze
35 Oklahoma city
36 Help
38 Oman neighbor
39 Like seawater
42 Rabbit's title
43 Roof overhang
44 Dispatched
45 Request
46 — polloi
48 Son-gun link

Solution time: 24 mins.

			L	E	I			B	T	U		
		B	A	R	N		A	L	A	R	M	
C	O	N	I	C		C	A	D	I	O		
B	A	C	K	I	N	T	H	E	U	S	S	R
S	S	E		S	E	U	S	S		T	H	C
			H	O	S	P			B	E	E	T
	S	F	A	R	S		L	A	U	R	A	
C	H	E	T			P	A	L	M			
O	R	F		W	A	I	S	T		V	I	A
D	U	S	T	I	N	T	H	E	W	I	N	D
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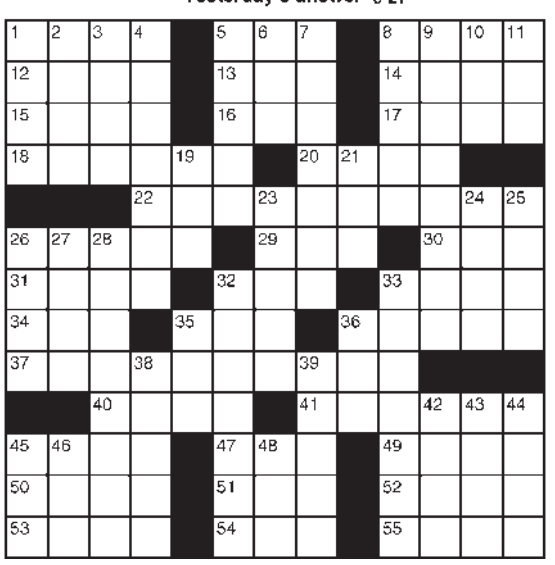
		A	S	T	O	N		E	D	I	T	
			S	Y	N			D	E	L		

Yesterday's answer 6-21



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jussie Smollett, 35; Prince William, 36; Brandon Flowers, 37; Chris Pratt, 39.

Happy Birthday: Opportunities are available this year, but it's up to you to take advantage of them. Don't let emotions or self-doubt overwhelm you. You have to have faith in who you are and what you can achieve if you want to turn this into a year filled with greatness and success. Your numbers are 3, 12, 22, 27, 32, 41, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* An emotional situation will require discipline on your part if you don't want to make matters worse. Choose your words wisely to avoid a standoff with someone you need to work with in order to accomplish your goals. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Look for alternative solutions if things aren't falling into place. Discuss your plans with someone who can influence the outcome; you will find a way to get things done without opposition. Don't take a physical risk that could lead to injury. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Discipline, hard work and minor accomplishments will help you drum up the help you need to finish what you start. A physical improvement at home or to yourself must be thought out before you begin. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Attend networking functions or expand your creative endeavors. You need an outlet that will bring you peace of mind and ease your stress. An emotional incident should not be allowed to undermine your ability to get things done. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't let anxiousness take over, pushing you to make an abrupt decision that can affect your home environment or an important relationship. Keep your opinion and your personal information a secret to avoid having someone tamper with your plans. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* If it's change you want, make it happen. Take the initiative; you'll soon gain the support you need from your peers or family. Emotional spending should be avoided. Don't try to buy someone's attention or affection. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* You'll face a bit of an obstacle course. Your timing will have to be impeccable if you want to come out on top. Don't overextend yourself or underestimate what's involved in a project or partnership. Take a pass if turmoil starts to mount. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Situations will get blown out of proportion quickly. Don't overreact or offer too much information to people who tend to get upset easily. A problem at home or with a partner will take an unexpected turn. Patience will be required. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Money matters are best handled with caution. Only invest what you can afford. If you go into debt, it will cause monetary issues with someone you share expenses with. Make romance and an important relationship your priorities. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Beliefs may be questioned. Don't let anyone play with your emotions or cause you to doubt your lifestyle or ethics. Arguments won't solve issues, but allowing everyone to have his or her own opinion will. Diplomacy will open doors. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't let inevitable change upset you. Go with the flow and turn a potential negative into a positive. How you react will make a difference. Unclutter your surroundings and de-stress your life. Be open to romance and walk away from discord. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Joint ventures are not favored. Don't let someone charm you into doing things that aren't in your best interest. Keep the peace, but do your own thing. An unexpected change to the way you earn your money is apparent. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are interesting, unique and creative. You are persuasive and possessive.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7			4		2		
6		2	8		5	3		1
	3			2			6	
2		4	5		3	1		9
	4			8			3	
1		8	9		4	6		7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	8	5	6	3	9	2	1	7
1	9	2	7	8	4	5	3	6
6	3	7	5	2	1	8	9	4
7	2	6	9	4	3	1	8	5
8	4	3	2	1	5	7	6	9
9	5	1	8	7	6	3	4	2
2	6	8	1	9	7	4	5	3
3	7	9	4	5	8	6	2	1
5	1	4	3	6	2	9	7	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/21

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

'GREY'S ANATOMY' (TV SERIES) **Solution: 7 letters**

L	P	W	S	E	A	T	T	L	E	L	L	I	S	S
S	A	A	O	R	Z	N	E	W	O	W	A	M	E	N
J	T	T	R	H	E	E	E	J	Y	A	N	G	R	E
E	R	A	I	T	S	B	R	E	E	H	I	R	R	K
S	I	B	R	P	B	H	M	I	D	S	T	E	O	C
S	C	A	T	E	S	E	O	A	M	P	S	Y	T	I
I	K	I	R	S	F	O	R	N	H	A	I	E	Y	P
C	A	L	L	I	E	I	H	U	D	C	R	K	R	I
A	Y	E	L	C	Z	T	N	D	E	A	C	A	E	J
D	E	Y	A	O	I	T	J	R	R	R	L	R	V	U
N	S	A	N	D	R	A	O	H	E	A	L	E	A	S
A	P	A	E	E	M	S	D	I	K	S	H	V	X	T
R	M	R	N	E	L	L	E	M	G	R	A	C	E	I
I	E	A	S	P	O	M	P	E	O	K	E	V	I	N
M	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S	N	I	B	B	O	R

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Yesterday's Answer: Symbols

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(670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,	:	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0131**
-v-	:	
The Estate of GABRIEL D. DELA CRUZ and ROSA M. DELA CRUZ, Defendants.	:	

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 27, 2018, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 005 I 516, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 743 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 2084/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document no. 14232 dated May 14, 1982, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, July 6, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC. Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 31st of May, 2018.

/s/ MICHAEL A WHITE, Auctioneer

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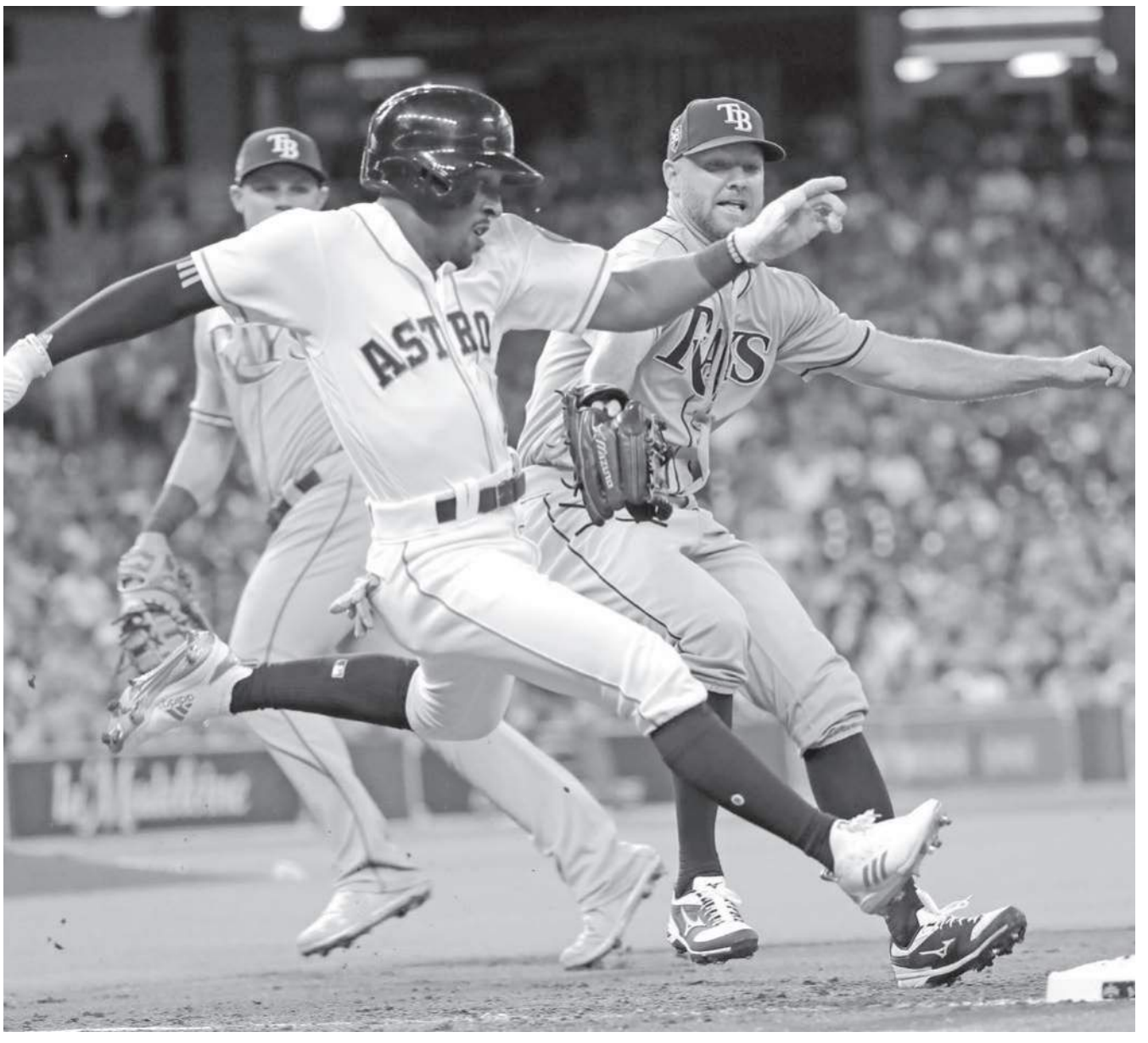
Rays prevail, snap Astros' winning streak

HOUSTON (AP)—C.J. Cron homered early and Wilson Ramos hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the eighth inning to lift the Tampa Bay Rays to a 2-1 win on Tuesday night to snap a 12-game winning streak by the Houston Astros.

Blake Snell (9-4) allowed just three hits and one run in seven innings, but had to pitch around a career-high seven walks for his fifth straight win. Sergio Romo pitched for the third straight game, taking over with one out in the ninth and allowing one hit for his third save a night after blowing the save in Houston's 5-4 win.

The Astros went 1 for 6 with runners in scoring position to come up one victory shy of setting the franchise record for longest winning streak in franchise history.

Hector Rondon (1-2) took the loss by allowing two hits and one run in one inning.



AP

Houston Astros' Tony Kemp, left, beats Tampa Bay Rays relief pitcher Jonny Venters to first base for a hit during the third inning of a baseball game Tuesday, June 19, 2018, in Houston.

Yankees 7, Mariners 2

In New York, Domingo German pitched two-hit ball over a career-high seven innings and Giancarlo Stanton hit one of New York's four home runs in the Yankees' victory against the Mariners.

Miguel Andujar and Aaron Hicks each belted a two-run shot off Marco Gonzales (7-4) in the fifth. Hicks homered for the third straight day and finished with three hits from the leadoff spot as the Yankees boosted baseball's best record to 48-22, moving a season-best 26 games above .500.

Coming off a four-hit game, Stanton sent a solo drive to straightaway center field in the first. Aaron Judge had an RBI single in the seventh, and rookie phenom Gleyber Torres added his 14th home run in the eighth.

Dodgers 4, Cubs 3, 1st Game
Cubs 2, Dodgers 1, 2nd Game

In Chicago, Albert Almora Jr. hit a game-ending RBI single in the 10th inning, and the Cubs beat the Dodgers 2-1 to salvage a split of their day-night doubleheader.

Kris Bryant sparked the winning rally with a leadoff triple against Brock Stewart (0-1). After Javier Baez was walked intentionally, Almora hit a liner into right field.

Rob Zastryzny (1-0), the fifth Cubs reliever, got Yasmani Grandal to fly out with the bases loaded in the top of the 10th to earn the win.

The rematch of the last two NL Championship Series was set to begin on Monday night, but the opener was postponed by a mixture of poor weather and a limited power outage at Wrigley Field. It's the only scheduled visit for Los Angeles, leading to the day-night doubleheader.

Los Angeles began the long day at the iconic ballpark with a victory on pinch-hitter Kyle Farmer's two-run double in the ninth.

Nationals 9, Orioles 7

In Washigton, Trea Turner went 4 for 4 with a homer, Anthony Rendon drove in three runs and the Nationals extended their recent domination of the Orioles.

Adam Eaton had two hits and two RBI for the Nationals, who trailed 5-1 in the fifth inning before rallying to make it six straight wins over Baltimore. Washington is 4-0 against its neighboring interleague rival this season, outscoring the Orioles by a combined 20-8.

The Nationals trailed 6-5 before getting six hits in a four-run seventh. Rendon delivered a two-run double off Tanner Scott (0-1) that put Washington ahead, and Turner capped his four-hit night with a double.

Brewers 3, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, rookie Freddy Peralta allowed two hits in six stellar innings, Jesus Aguilar hammered his 14th home run of the season and the Brewers cooled off the Pirates.

Peralta (2-0) struck out seven without issuing a walk, surrendering only singles to Corey Dickerson and Colin Moran in the fourth but otherwise keeping the Pirates firmly in check.

Aguilar finished 2 for 3 and drove in all three runs off Jameson Taillon (4-6). Aguilar hit a two-run shot to the seats in right-center in the first and doubled down the line in left field in the third.

Braves 11, Blue Jays 4

In Toronto, Johan Camargo hit his first career grand slam and went 4 for 5 with five RBI, and the Braves beat the Blue Jays to snap Toronto's home winning streak at seven games.

Camargo hit his seventh home run off Jaime Garcia (2-6) in the second, singled in the fourth, hit an RBI single in the fifth and doubled and scored in the eighth. He struck out in the ninth.

Charlie Culberson also connected and Ender Inciarte had three hits and three RBI as the Braves won for the sixth time in seven games.

Reds 9, Tigers 5

In Cincinnati, Joey Votto ended a long homer drought with his third career grand slam Tuesday night, powering the Reds to a victory that ended the Tigers' longest winning streak in two years.

Sal Romano (4-7) had a second straight solid outing, limiting the Tigers to four singles over seven shutout innings. Billy Hamilton also homered as the Reds pulled away to a 9-0 lead.

The Tigers had won five straight and moved within a game of .500. They haven't been to the break-even mark since they were a season-best 4-4 on April 8. They've wasted five chances to get back.

Indians 6, White Sox 3

In Cleveland, Mike Clevinger struck out 10 and allowed one run in 7 2/3 innings, and the Indians defeated the White Sox.

Clevinger (6-2) beat Chicago for the third time this season and was in command after giving up a first-inning run. The right-hander retired 13 straight between the second and sixth while allowing five hits.

Clevinger, who struck out a career-high 11 against the White Sox last week, was pulled after two walks in the eighth.

Rangers 4, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Cole Hamels allowed four hits over seven innings, Delino DeShields doubled home two runs and the Rangers beat the Royals to extend their winning streak to a season-high four games.

The Royals have lost eight straight, matching their season high, and 14 of 15. They own a major league-worst 10-28 home record and their 22-51 overall mark is the worst in franchise history after 73 games.

Cardinals 7, Phillies 6

In Philadelphia, Matt Carpenter hit a tiebreaking solo homer with two out in the ninth, helping the Cardinals edge the Phillies.

Carpenter also had a tying two-run double in St. Louis' four-run seventh. Tommy Pham homered and singled for the Cardinals, and Kolten Wong also went deep.

Odubel Herrera and Carlos Santana connected for the Phillies.

Seranthony Dominguez (1-1) struck out the first two batters in the ninth and had Carpenter in a 0-2 hole.

Twins 6, Red Sox 2

In Minneapolis, Eduardo Escobar hit two go-ahead doubles, a two-run delivery off Chris Sale in the sixth inning and one that sparked a four-run eighth for the Twins in a victory over the Red Sox.

Robby Scott (0-1), just recalled from Triple-A, relieved Sale to start the eighth and walked the first two batters. Joe Kelly entered, and Escobar's one-out line drive bounced in front of Jackie Bradley Jr. and skipped past the center fielder as two runs scored.

Rockies 10, Mets 8

In Denver, Nolan Arenado, Trevor Story and Ian Desmond homered in succession during a six-run third inning, German Marquez pitched effectively for six innings and the Rockies snapped an eight-game home losing streak by beating the Mets.

Carlos Gonzalez also went deep for the Rockies, who won at home for the first time since May 29. Arenado finished a triple shy of the cycle with four RBI in a game that was delayed 1 hour, 20 minutes because of heavy rain.

Marquez (5-7) allowed four runs on six hits in picking up his first win in nearly a month.

Athletics 4, Padres 2, 10 innings

In San Diego, Stephen Piscotty homered with two outs in the ninth inning to tie the game and Jed Lowie hit a two-run shot with two outs in the 10th to lift the Athletics over the Padres.

Piscotty's shot into the second deck came off closer Brad Hand. Hand was trying for his 22nd save and retired the first two batters before Piscotty homered on a 2-2 pitch, his fifth.

Angels 5, Diamondbacks 4

In Anaheim, Mike Trout drove in two runs, Kole Calhoun and Ian Kinsler added solo homers and the Angels held on to beat the Diamondbacks.

Trout continued his torrid hitting in June by slapping a sharp first-pitch single to left-center with the bases loaded in the fifth inning, and a throwing error by Jarrod Dyson allowing Kinsler to score as the Angels took a 4-2 lead.

Giants 6, Marlins 3

In San Francisco, Buster Posey homered in the first, Gorkys Hernandez hit a two-run drive in the second and an RBI double later, and the Giants held their lead this time to beat the Marlins 6-3 in another night of plunking by both pitching staffs.

Marlins starter Dan Straily (2-3) and manager Don Mattingly were automatically ejected in the second after Straily hit Posey on the left arm with a pitch.

Cavaliers enter draft unsure of LeBron's plans

Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James (23) is defended by Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson and Stephen Curry (30) during the first half of Game 4 of the NBA Finals, Friday, June 8, 2018, in Cleveland.

CLEVELAND (AP)—LeBron James won't be picking any players during Thursday's NBA draft.

At least not directly.

With the trajectory of their franchise riding on where he decides to play next season and beyond, the Cleveland Cavaliers will enter this year's draft not knowing if they're choosing a player to help them —and James— contend for another championship, develop a prospect for the future or potentially take a player to trade.

It's a guessing game.

James has until June 29 to exercise his $35.6 million contract option for next season or decline it and become an unrestricted free agent, officially making him the planet's best and most coveted player.

The 33-year-old is not expected to reveal his intentions until after the draft.

By that time, the Cavs, still stinging from a Finals sweep at the hands of the Golden State Warriors, hope to have chosen a player that makes them more appealing to the three-time champion, who is mulling whether to leave them —and his Northeast Ohio home—for the second time in his career.

Anything seems possible at this point. James and his representatives have kept an airtight lid on their plans.

The Cavs, too, have been secretive while general manager Koby Altman prepares for his first draft by consulting with his staff on what to do with the No. 8 overall pick, the one they received last summer in the seismic trade that sent All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving to the Boston Celtics.

It's quite a quandary for Cleveland, and James isn't helping the Cavs by keeping them in suspense.

It's also possible that James hasn't made up his mind.

Following Game 4 in the Finals, James said he'll factor in his family's well-being along with his thirst to win more titles into a decision that once again has Cleveland edgy.

"I still want to be in championship mode," he said. "I think I've shown this year why I will still continue to be in championship mode."

And while there are numerous unknowns, there is one indisputable fact: the Cavs must upgrade their roster to have any chance of keeping James and continuing a relationship that was resurrected in 2014.

After yielding to Irving's request and trading him, the Cavs spent all last season trying to replace him. They never came close, and without a dependable second scoring option or a guard, James was forced to shoulder a heavier load than ever. He succeeded in getting to his eighth straight Finals, but was then overmatched by the deeper Warriors.

To remain viable contenders and keep James happy and healthy, the Cavs must address their backcourt issue this summer, either in the draft, through free agency or a trade.

With this year's draft top loaded with quality big men, there's a strong possibility the Cavs will have their pick of one of the elite guards, perhaps Oklahoma's Trae Young or Alabama's Collin Sexton—two players James has praised in the past.

Young was college basketball's most electrifying player last season, averaging 27.4 points and 8.7 assists even while teams designed defenses specifically to stop him. James kept an eye on the 6-foot-2 scoring phenom from afar and is intrigued by not only his ability to break down teams but his unselfishness.

Young could be gone by the time the Cavs are on the clock, but Sexton would be a nice backup plan. The 6-foot-3 guard averaged 19.2 points and 3.6 assists as a freshman and showed he's got a big-game gene, carrying the Crimson Tide on a run in the SEC tournament that secured the school's first NCAA berth since 2012.

Sexton worked out for the Cavs at their training facility and owner Dan Gilbert referred to the 19-year-old as "a very interesting draft prospect" on Twitter.

There's also a chance that Cleveland could select a guard to use to entice a major trade. The Cavs have long been interested in Charlotte's Kemba Walker, who will be a free agent after next season, and landing a player of that caliber would send a resounding message to James that they intend to keep chasing championships.

Walker might not be enough to keep James here, but he would give the Cavs a new star to build around.

James has remained off social media since the playoffs began in April, and his self-imposed blackout has continued since the Finals ended.

He's been quiet, but there's no doubt he's watching.

Every move.

Jordan will still have input on Hornets draft day decisions

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Michael Jordan hired proven general manager Mitch Kupchak this offseason to help turn around a franchise mired in mediocrity since he became the Charlotte Hornets' majority owner eight years ago.

But that doesn't mean the highly competitive Jordan won't have input on personnel decisions, beginning with the NBA draft on Thursday night.

Kupchak said in a pre-draft news conference Tuesday that he'll have final say in who the Hornets select before quickly adding, "well, with the exception of one person—and obviously that's ownership."

Kupchak has won 10 NBA championships, including seven as an executive with the Los Angeles Lakers—so he knows a thing or two about building a winning roster. But he's quickly learning that Jordan, who many consider the best NBA player ever, is still very much a hands-on owner when it comes to the players he employs.

And Kupchak understands that.

"There is a huge business component to our relationship," Kupchak said.

Kupchak said he has communicated with Jordan on the phone and via text throughout the draft evaluation process. The 55-year-old Jordan arrived in Charlotte, North Carolina on Monday and the two have been studying tape on potential draft picks since.

The Hornets, who have failed to make the playoffs three of the past four seasons, have the 11th overall pick in the draft.

Kupchak has known Jordan since he was a freshman at the University of North Carolina.

However, Kupchak said that while they both are former Tar Heels, he never had considered Jordan a friend prior to being hired this past offseason to replace Rich Cho as Hornets general manager.

Since then they have had dinner together and gotten to know each other a little more.

He said the relationship has changed for the better.

"Hopefully when all is said and done, our other relationship, which is our friend relationship continues to grow and is not altered in any way," Kupchak said. "There are no favors being done here. We're friends and I think we'll remain friends, but the bottom line in this business is success and winning games."

Kupchak was rather forthcoming in the team's pre-draft press conference Tuesday, saying the does not expect to trade the 11th overall pick.

US Open being remembered for the wrong reasons

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP)—If the aim of the U.S. Open is to identify the best player, then the last three got it right.

The problem is a tendency to remember what went wrong.

The lasting image from Shinnecock Hills was Phil Mickelson, now 0 for 27 in the U.S. Open, hitting his putt too hard on the 13th hole Saturday. He moved as swiftly as his 48-year-old legs would allow and swatted the ball back toward the hole while it was still rolling. It was a shocking scene to everyone but Mickelson, who said he meant no disrespect to the game by intentionally violating a rule to either save shots or save a long walk to wherever his ball might have stopped.

Brooks Koepka, meanwhile, delivered a classic U.S. Open performance with discipline, grit and clutch putting. He effectively won by getting up-and-down three times in a four-hole stretch, one of them for bogey, the last one a par on the 14th hole when he first had to get his ball back in play from thick, shin-high grass.

He became the first repeat U.S. Open champion in 29 years, and it's a wonder anyone remembers he won last year.

Just the mention of Erin Hills brings back memories of wide fairways and record scoring.

There was Koepka posing with the trophy, the large leaderboard behind him filled with more red numbers than had ever been seen at a U.S. Open. He was the third player to win at double digits under par (16 under). The other two were Tiger Woods, who won by 15 shots at Pebble Beach, and Rory McIlroy, who won by eight at Congressional. Koepka won by four shots, one of seven players to finish at 10 under or better.

The ultimate test was finding enough red numbers to put on all the boards.

"Everyone said Erin Hills was set up for me," Koepka said. "It was set up for a lot of guys that bomb that ball. I just happened to play a little bit better."

No one was better on the back nine when he ran off three straight birdies, and the middle one was exquisite—a chip 8-iron from 155 yards to a back pin. Koepka called it the best shot he hit all week.

Remember that one?

Probably not, and that's OK. It's easy to lose track of birdies on a course that allowed a record 140 rounds under par.

Dustin Johnson spent more time talking to rules officials than to Lee Westwood, his playing partner, during the final round at Oakmont in 2016. There was a discussion on the fifth green on whether Johnson caused his ball to move a fraction of an inch. Equally vivid was the image of two officials telling Johnson on the 12th tee that he might be penalized one shot. Or he might not.

Talavera, Camacho lead individual awardees in Tuesday Night League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Veteran Robert Talavera and Maridel Camacho stood out in the Tuesday Night Bowling League after winning the most individual awards in their respective divisions.

Talavera topped the men's high scratch game with his 247 pins and also had the best score in the high scratch series with 636. The Natibu bowler, who helped his team rule the eight-squad tournament, defeated Jon Hensley on both occasions, as the former recorded 236 and 589 in the scratch game and scratch series, respectively.

With his pair of wins, Talavera ended up with the highest average in the men's field after posting 181.76. Diana Camacho took the same award in the women's field after recording 168.46, while Maridel Camacho prevailed in the high scratch game (254) and series (628). Connie Lizama was the runner-up in the high scratch game with her 213, while Janice Camacho was ranked second in the series after logging 582.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of the third placer Alley Gators pose for a photo after the awards ceremony for the Tuesday Night Bowling League last Tuesday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

In the handicap, Julian Camacho and Raymond Villegas split the top honors. Julian had 281 in the high handicap game to beat Boy-Sabate (270), while Villegas' 729 in the series edged the 728 of Al Ken.

Maridel Camacho swept the high handicap game and series after tallying 290 and 739 and defeating Connie Lizama (257) and Karen Cornelio (678). With her domination, Camacho was named the Most Improved Player in the women's division, while Joe Digno earned the same award in the men's category.

Meanwhile, Natibu won three of the four awards in the team event: high scratch (988) and series (2,666) and high handicap game (1,121). Super Tech, Inc. foiled Natibu's bid for a sweep after posting 3,132 in the high handical series.

Matson supports 2018 Micronesian Games

The Organizing Committee of the 2018 Micronesian Games is honored to announce Matson's sponsorship at the gold level for the quadrennial event that will be held in Yap from July 15 to 27.

"In partnership with Triple B Forwarders and Palau Shipping, Matson is providing shipping support for all of the materials and supplies needed to host the Games," said Liyon Sulog, CEO and co-chair of the 2018 Micro Games Organizing Committee.

The gold sponsorship is the highest level of support for the 2018 Micro Games that provides the event with a minimum of $75,000 in both cash and in-kind services. Among the many benefits that Matson will receive as the gold sponsor includes the renaming of the Yap Sports Complex as the Matson Yap Sports Complex.

"Our entire Matson team, along with our partners, Triple B Forwarders and Palau Shipping, are excited to be the gold sponsors of the most important sporting event in our region," said Bernie Valencia, Matson vice president and general manager, Guam and Micronesia.

"This sponsorship allows us to directly support the athletes from the communities we've served for more than 20 years. We also stand behind the Micronesian Games' goal of promoting positive physical and mental well-being to the youth of Micronesia. Congratulations to the teams and coaches for their hard work. We look forward to cheering them on come July."

Islands throughout the Pacific Ocean have relied on the leading U.S. carrier Matson for the past 22 years to provide a vital lifeline and the movement of goods to people and companies throughout the region. ***(PR)***

JAPAN

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years ago, and the Japanese also began the game without Okazaki, a Leicester forward who has been trying to overcome a sore calf and was replaced in the starting lineup by Osako. Okazaki did get in the game, but not until the 85th minute.

But it was apparent within minutes that the rematch would not go so smoothly for Colombia, much to the chagrin of entire sections of the Mordovia Arena bathed in yellow.

In the third minute, Osako won a bouncing ball from defender Davinson Sanchez and broke in alone toward goal. Goalkeeper David Ospina blocked Osako's shot, but Kagawa pounced on the rebound and quickly got off a shot on goal that drew Sanchez's red card and the penalty.

Kagawa converted by directing his shot inside the right post.

Colombia began the game without Rodriguez, a Bayern Munich midfielder who was the leading scorer at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. But Rodriguez had been laboring with a sore left calf recently, casting doubt over his readiness to play.

He came on to join captain Radamel Falcao in the 59th minute, but his best chances were thwarted by Japan's desperate defending near the goal.

World Cup games are known for starting on time. But not this one.

When the game was due to officially start, Falcao walked across to Japan's side of the field and spoke to referee Damir Skomina in a discussion that lasted beyond the official countdown to kickoff.

When fans let out the customary cheer to mark the beginning of the match, the teams were still standing still. Moments later, Skomina ordered both teams to change sides and the match commenced shortly after.

Only minutes later came the wild sequence, which set up the opening goal.

Senegal 2, Poland 1

Senegal midfielder Mbaye Niang saw the signal from the referee to re-enter following treatment for an injury and jogged along the center line. Then Niang noticed Poland's Grzegorz Krychowiak loft a backpass to Jan Bednarek, who hadn't realized Niang was back on the field.

Niang outsprinted goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny to reach the ball about 40 yards from the net, knocked the ball forward and tapped it in for Senegal's second fluky goal of the night. The Lions of Teranga held on for a win over Poland and opened the World Cup with a surprising victory—just like in 2002.

"You have to deserve your luck," Niang said. "We were rewarded today for our work. You have to seize your chances when they are given to you."

Senegal became the first African team to win at this year's World Cup after Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia were outscored 6-1 in losses.

It went ahead in the 37th minute when Thiago Cionek's attempted block of Idrissa Gueye's shot deflected and wrong-footed Szczesny, who was picked to start over fellow Arsenal castoff Lukasz Fabianski.

After Niang doubled the lead in the 60th, Krychowiak headed in Kamil Grosicki's free kick in the 86th minute, ending a streak of five straight scoreless openers for Poland.

"Two goals following our mistakes was something that we were very unhappy with," Poland coach Adam Nawalka said.

Russia 3, Egypt 1

Two wins, eight goals and almost certainly a place in the knockout stage for first time since the Soviet era.

Russia is enjoying quite the party at its own World Cup — and not even the highly anticipated return of Mohamed Salah could slow it down on Tuesday.

Confounding grim pre-tournament predictions, the host nation earned a second straight emphatic victory to start the group stage by beating Egypt 3-1. Having already routed Saudi Arabia 5-0, Russia is likely to be celebrating a spot in the round of 16 by Wednesday evening and few could have seen that happening so soon.

"It's a group of solidarity and cohesion," said Russia coach Stanislav Cherchesov, who whipped up the crowd by waving his arms in delight on the field after the final whistle. "You mention difficulties, problems. We don't like these words. We don't have this in our vocabulary. We had some issues and we dealt with it."

Like a string of pre-tournament injuries that ravaged the defense. Like a run of seven winless games heading into the tournament. The Russians started the World Cup as the lowest-ranked team at the tournament at No. 70, but they aren't playing like it.

Three goals in a 15-minute span early in the second half did the damage against Egypt, with Ahmed Fathi poking the ball into his own net—the fifth own-goal of the tournament—to put Russia ahead in the 47th minute. Denis Cheryshev, with his third goal of the World Cup, and striker Artyom Dzyuba then scored in quick succession before Salah won and converted a consolation penalty in his first game back after 3 1/2 weeks out with a shoulder injury.

Neymar leaves Brazil training session limping

Neymar limped out of Brazil's training session at the World Cup on Tuesday because of pain in his right ankle.

The Brazilian soccer confederation said the injury was not serious, adding Neymar left as a precaution and would be back in training on Wednesday.

The federation said Neymar has been in pain since the team's 1-1 draw against Switzerland on Friday, when he was consistently fouled.

Neymar started practicing with the rest of the squad but left accompanied by a doctor about 30 minutes into the session in Sochi.

He had been playing keep-away with a few other players when he started showing signs of discomfort in his ankle. He was visibly in pain after he tried to intercept a ball with his right foot while at the center of the keep-away circle.

At one point, he bent down and grabbed his ankle, but tried to continue playing anyway. A few moments later he finally decided to leave, kicking a ball away with his left foot before limping away beside the team doctor.

HERAS

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highest ranking at No. 1, 329 in March last year.

The Grade 5 event in Noume was one of the two tournaments Heras competed in. She and Japan's Julia Daiya Barden moved into the Final Four after slipping past No. 7 seed Gemma Cliffe of New Zealand and Kokomi Koyama of Japan, 6-2, 2-6, 11-9. Earlier in the quarterfinals, Heras and Barden swept New Zealand's Emma Jane Barclay and Australia's Munroe, 6-1, 6-3.

In the semis, Heras and Barden were pitted against No. 2 Ivy Mclean and Holly Stewart and the Kiwis won in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4. Mclean and Stewart eventually topped the doubles event after outlasting No. 4 and Japan's Pete Komada and Yukina Kubo in the finals, 5-7, 6-2, 12-10.

In the 64-player draw singles, Heras won her first two games to march into the quarterfinals. The No. 9 seed CNMI player downed Barclay, 7-6 (1), 6-4, and then defeated New Zealand's Lara Mcnaughten, 6-3, 6-3, to book a quarterfinals berth.

In the Round of 8, Heras was paired against another Kiwi player in No. 4 Elys Saguil-Ventura and the latter prevailed, 6-0, 6-2. Australia's Lara Walker won the singles event after beating Koyama in the finals, 6-2, 6-2.

Besides Heras, who will be playing for Dixie State in Utah this fall, three other CNMI players competed in the New Caledonia ITF Junior Championships.

Conatsu Kaga rallied past Japan's Maki Kakizawa, 0-6, 6-1, 6-4, to take her opening match. Kaga bowed to No. 2 Sarah Weekley in the second round match, 1-6, 2-6. The Commonwealth bet also saw action in the doubles play with Fiji's Ruby Coffin and they fell to No. 2 Stewart and Mclean, 0-6, 0-6.

In the boys play, Ken Song and Robbie Schorr dropped their opening matches. Schorr lost to New Zealand's Corban Crowther, 3-6, 6-3, 4-6, while Song was also beaten by the latter, 6-0, 6-2. In the doubles, the CNMI pair was defeated by New Zealand's Patrick Joss and Jake Naylor, 6-2, 6-1.

CNMI

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"I am thankful to be given another opportunity to represent the CNMI. Definitely, I will try my best to improve my times in my last chance to swim in this event," Villacrusis said.

The Saipan Swim Club member is also using the event to set a good example and be a mentor to younger swimmers.

"We have swimmers on the team who will have their biggest tournament so far in PNG and it will be an honor to guide them and show them how it feels like to race in a very competitive environment that is way different from our local meets," the Mt. Carmel School graduate added.

Thompson is among the newcomers in the Oceania meet and aims for best times in all her events.

"I will swim hard and try my best to drop events and qualify for other teams this year and next," Thompson said.

She also thanked their parents and Winkfield for helping them prepare in the Oceania tournament and the 2018 Micronesian Games in Yap.

"Thank you for all your hard work and patience. I know it's hard to drive here early morning for the 5:15 ocean swim when you could be sleeping and enjoying your summer. To our parents and our clubs, we would also like to acknowledge their support. With your help, we our stronger and getting better every day and are ready to make the CNMI proud," Thompson said.

2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League Playoffs

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The 670 Sonics XVIII's Paulo Rafols wins the battle for the rebound during their title game against the Ol'Aces Real Deal in the boys U18 division of the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League held last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol'Aces Real Deal's E.J. Abejo, center, beats 670 Sonics XVIII's Khristian Itaas, right, and Jude Tengco to the ball.

The CT Law NMI Rollers' Aaron Ogumoro drives against three 670 Sonics XVIII defenders during their semis game.

The 670 Sonics XVIII's Jun Alipio, center, hangs on to the ball, as he is hounded by CT Law NMI Rollers' Aaron Ogumoro, left, and Matthew Richardson.

The CT Law NMI Rollers' Chris Arceo, right, and 670 Sonics XVIII's Rafael Ordona keep a close eye on each other during an inbound play.

The 670 Sonics XVIII's Jude Tengco, center, drives baseline against two CT Law NMI Rollers defenders.

The CT Law NMI Rollers' Chris Arceo, left, looks for a teammate, as he is hemmed in by the 670 Sonics XVIII' s Jude Tengco.

The Ol'Aces Real Deal's Chris Sacdalan pulls up for a shot against a phalanx of 670 Sonics XVIII defenders.

Rays prevail, snap Astros' winning streak

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Cavaliers enter draft unsure of LeBron's plans

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Japan tops Colombia in latest World Cup surprise

SARANSK, Russia (AP)—Yuya Osako had a surprise in store for those who gave Japan little chance of competing with Colombia at the World Cup.

Osako's gritty determination to set up one goal and his 73rd-minute header from Keisuke Honda's corner kick lifted Japan to a surprising 2-1 victory over the Colombians on Tuesday.

Osako won a bouncing ball to begin an early sequence that led to a penalty, put Colombia a man down and gave Japan a 1-0 lead when Shinji Kagawa converted from the spot.

Colombia had to play all but the opening minutes with 10 men after Carlos Sanchez received a red card for blocking Kagawa's shot on goal with his extended right arm.

Colombia equalized late in the first half on Juan Quintero's rolling but accurate free kick, which sneaked inside the right post.

Japan became the latest side to pull off an upset at the World Cup, joining Mexico, Switzerland and Iceland in earning surprising results. This score line was particularly unexpected in light of the fact that Japan had changed coaches shortly before the tournament, and because no Asian team had ever previously defeated a South American side in 17 World Cup meetings.

Not only was Osako instrumental in both goals, he sprawled to block a close-range shot by Colombia midfielder James Rodriguez in the waning minutes.

Not a bad way to provide joy to a country recovering from a deadly earthquake in Osaka a day earlier. The result also brought a smile to Japanese princess Takamdo, who attended the match.

Colombia soundly defeated Japan, 4-1, when the sides met in group play in Brazil four

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AP

Japan's Gen Shoji gets above Colombia's Radamel Falcao to win a header during the group H match at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Mordavia Arena in Saransk, Russia, Tuesday, June 19, 2018.

CNMI swimmers off to PNG

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI National Team members and officials pose for a photo after their training session last Monday in Susupe. The squad is leaving Saipan this Saturday to compete in the 12th Oceania Swimming Championships in Papua New Guinea.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI is so far sending its biggest delegation in the Oceania Swimming Championships with seven athletes and two officials participating in next week's competition in Papua New Guinea.

Swimmers Christian Villacrusis, siblings Jinnosuke and Lennosuke Suzuki, Jinju Thompson, Sophia Gauran, Juhn Tenorio, and Nelson Batallones are leaving Saipan for PNG this Saturday to race in the biennial meet that will run from June 25 to 30 in Port Moresby. Coach Jacoby Winkfield and team manager Kento Akimaru complete the CNMI delegation in the regional tournament.

"I think this is the biggest we have so far and that means the program is growing. Through the support of the parents and the swim federation and clubs, we are able to give more swimmers exposure in high-level competition," Winkfield said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Monday after the squad's open water swimming training in Susupe.

"We are ready," Winkfield added.

The seven CNMI swimmers train five times a week at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool and also hold open water swims three times a week.

Villacrusis, who joined the similar competition in 2016 (with Victoria Chentsova, Lennosuke, and Salofi Welch) is hoping to leave a mark in his second and last Oceania tournament as he is leaving the island for college this summer.

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Heras earns ranking points in New Caledonia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Isabel Heras won ranking points from the New Caledonia ITF Junior Championships held in Noume last week.

Heras got 11 ranking points for making it to the semifinals of the doubles event of the Grade 5 tournament and quarterfinals in the singles. With the additional points, the NCAA Division II-bound Heras moved up to the ITF Juniors rankings and has a total of of 10. 5 (9 in singles and 6 in doubles). She started the year at No. 1,626 and as of June 18 is at No. 1,531, earning her first ranking points in the doubles after the semis appearance in New Caledonia. Heras achieved her

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Isabel Heras, seen here making a return to Tania Tan in a local tournament at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts, won ITF Juniors ranking points in New Caledonia last week.